erica

SAKURAZAWA™

angel nest

angel nest

BY ERICA SAKURAZAWA

TOKYOPOP®

LOS ANGELES • TOKYO • LONDON

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Manga
Romance
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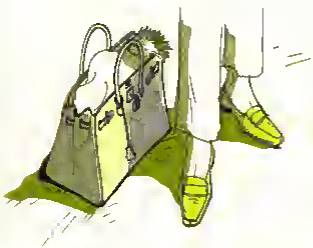
100% AUTHENTIC MANGA

wherever you go and whatever you do, may your guardian angel watch over you!

Natsu finds her husband with another woman when she comes home early from work one day. When he asks her for a divorce, Natsu doesn't really feel sad for some strange reason. All she can think of is what she has learned from her relationship with Ken and how she can move forward. Angel Nest reveals what happens when an angel visits Natsu and her life takes on a whole new meaning.



Erica Sakurazawa reveals what happens when real people are touched by an angel.

ISBN 1591823218

OT
OLDER TEEN
AGE 16+

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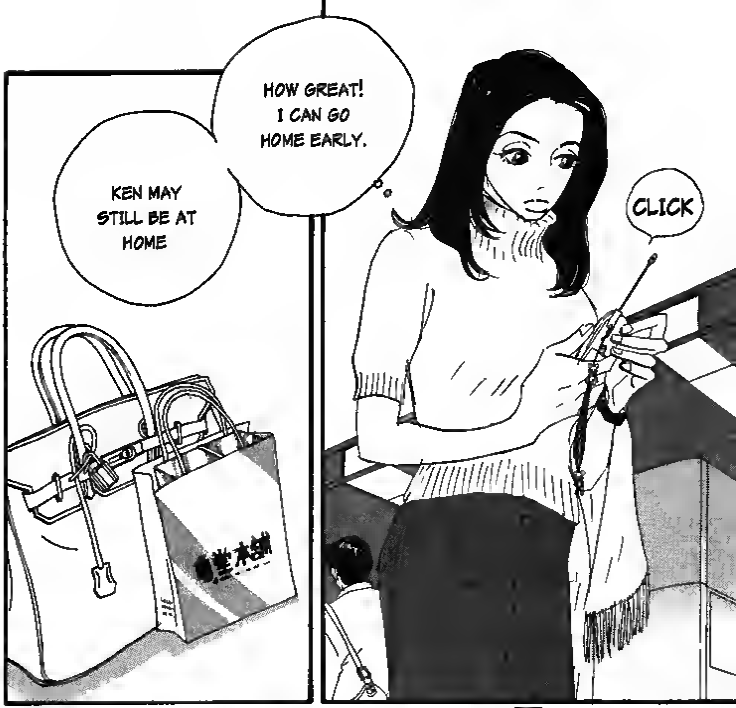
第1話

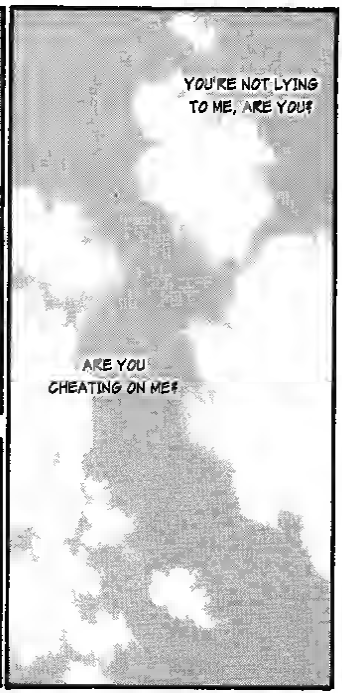
ACTUALLY, MY CLIENT CANCELED OUR AFTERNOON MEETING.
SO I COULD COME BACK TO TOKYO EARLIER THAN I THOUGHT...
YES, I SEE. I'LL COME BY THE EDITORIAL OFFICE TOMORROW. THANK YOU.


HOW GREAT! I CAN GO HOME EARLY.
KEN MAY STILL BE AT HOME
CLICK

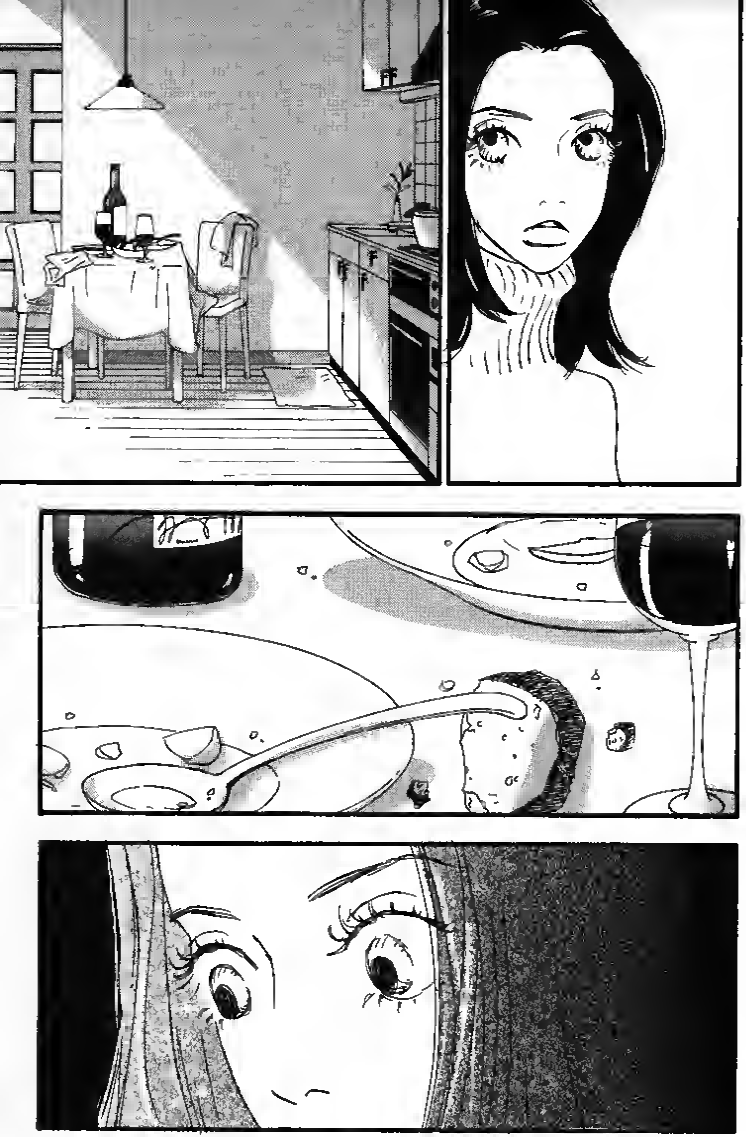
THERE HAVE ALREADY BEEN THREE BUSINESS TRIPS THIS MONTH.
YOU'RE NOT A WORKER BEE LIKE OTHER BUSINESSMEN.

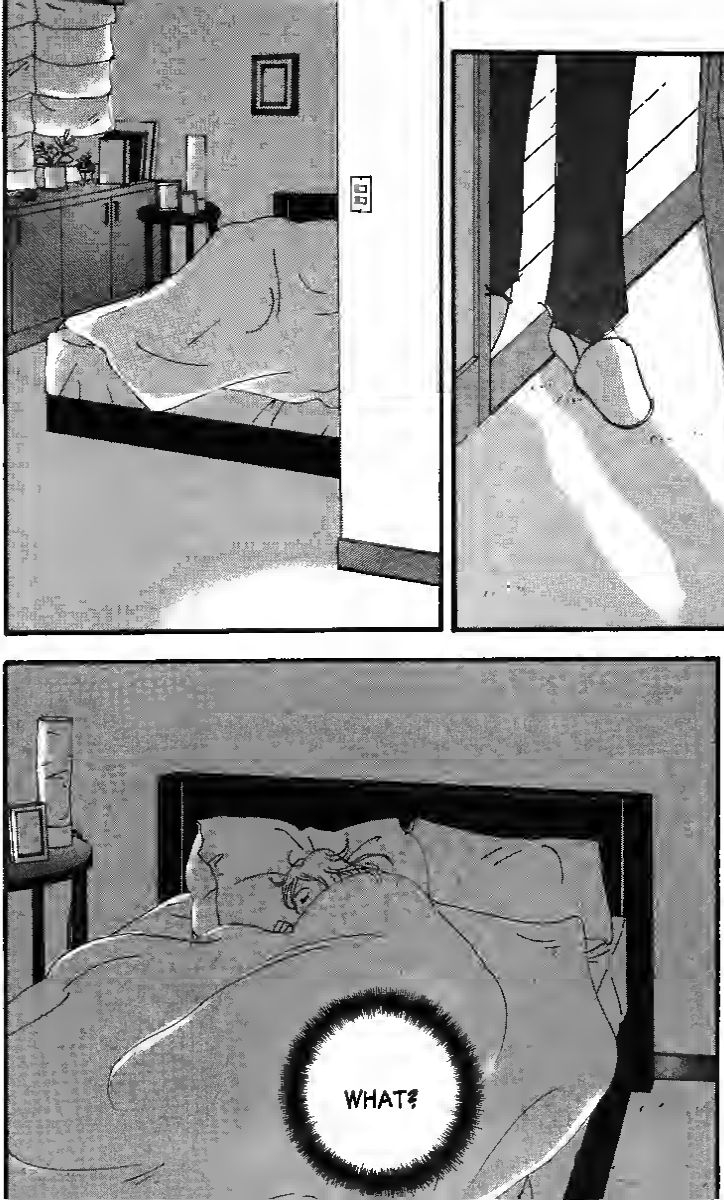
IS IT THE TRUTH THAT YOU'RE GOING ON ANOTHER BUSINESS TRIP?

OUR SCHEDULES HAVE CLASHED LATELY, SO WE HAVEN'T HAD TIME TO GET TOGETHER. WE'RE NOT MUCH DIFFERENT THAN A DIVORCED COUPLE.
I UNDERSTAND WHY HE IS BLAMING MY WORK...AND ME.

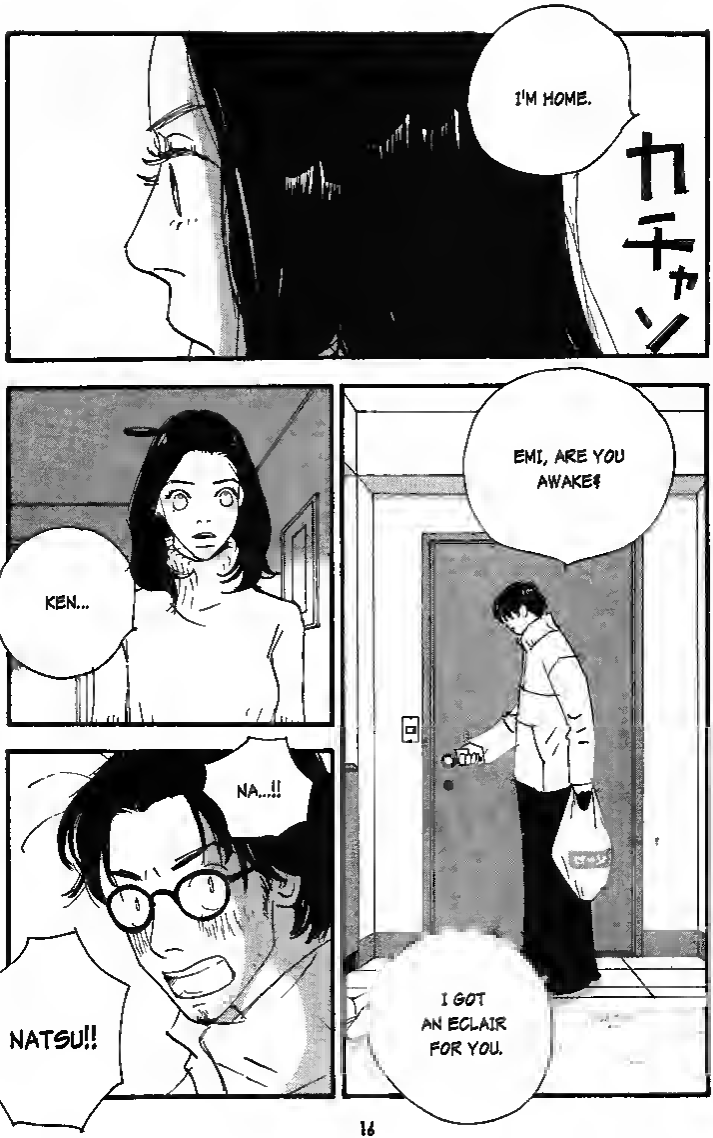


WE SHOULD HAVE A NICE DINNER TOGETHER TONIGHT.
UM...

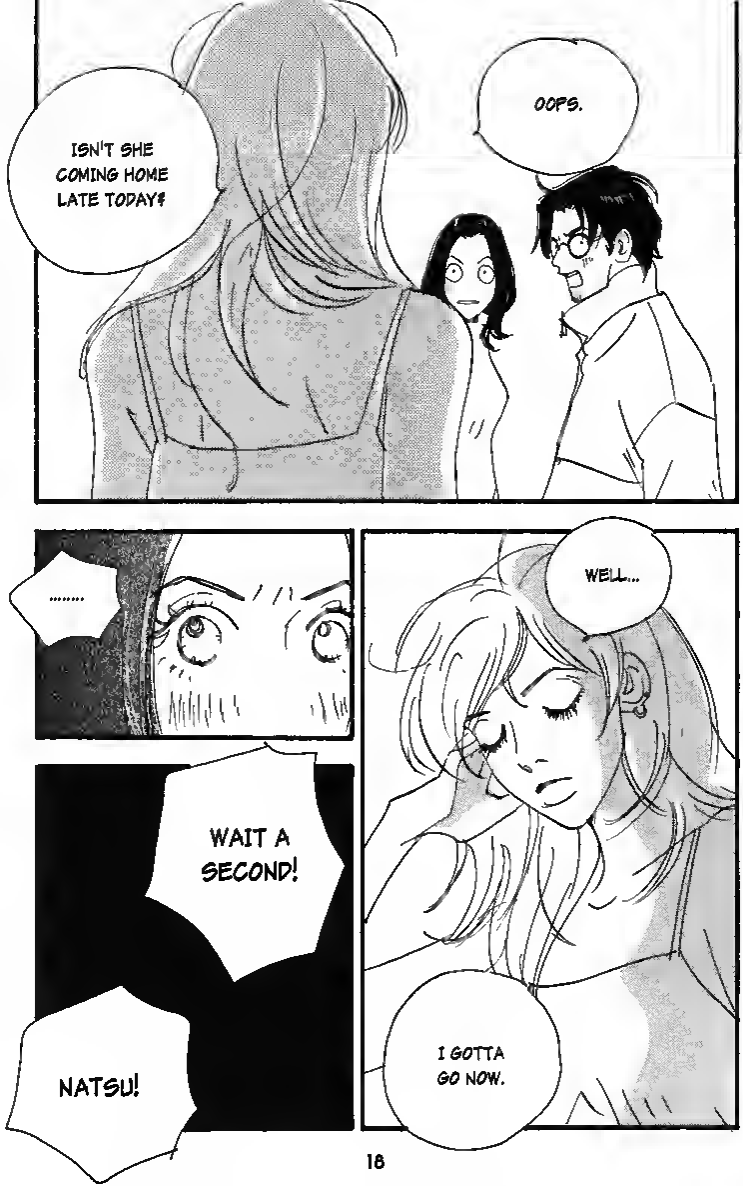



WHAT?

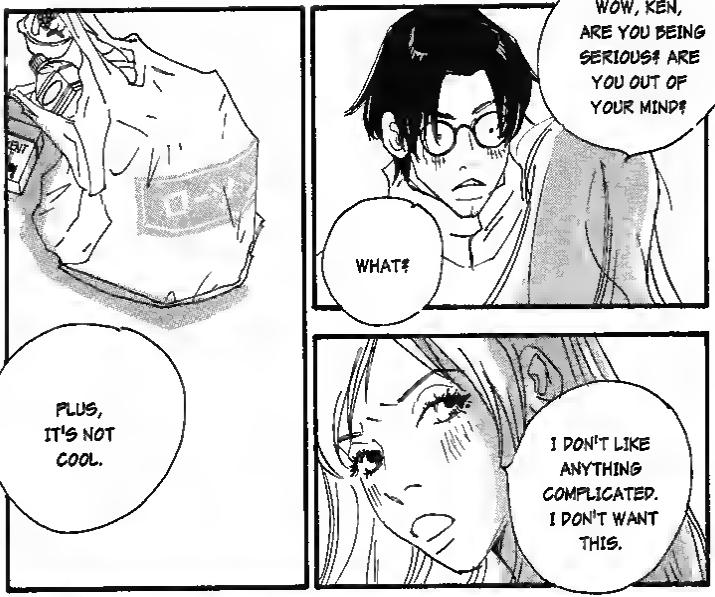
I DON'T BELIEVE THIS!
NO!

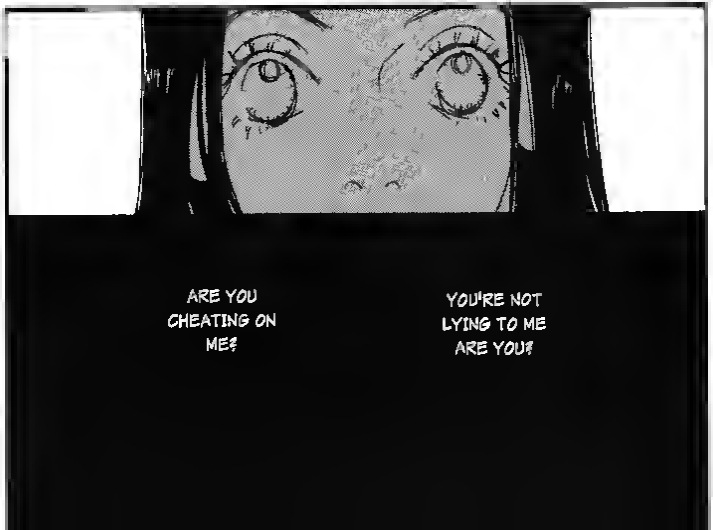

I'M HOME.
カチャン
EMI, ARE YOU AWAKE?
KEN...
NA...!!
NATSU!!
I GOT AN ECLAIR FOR YOU.

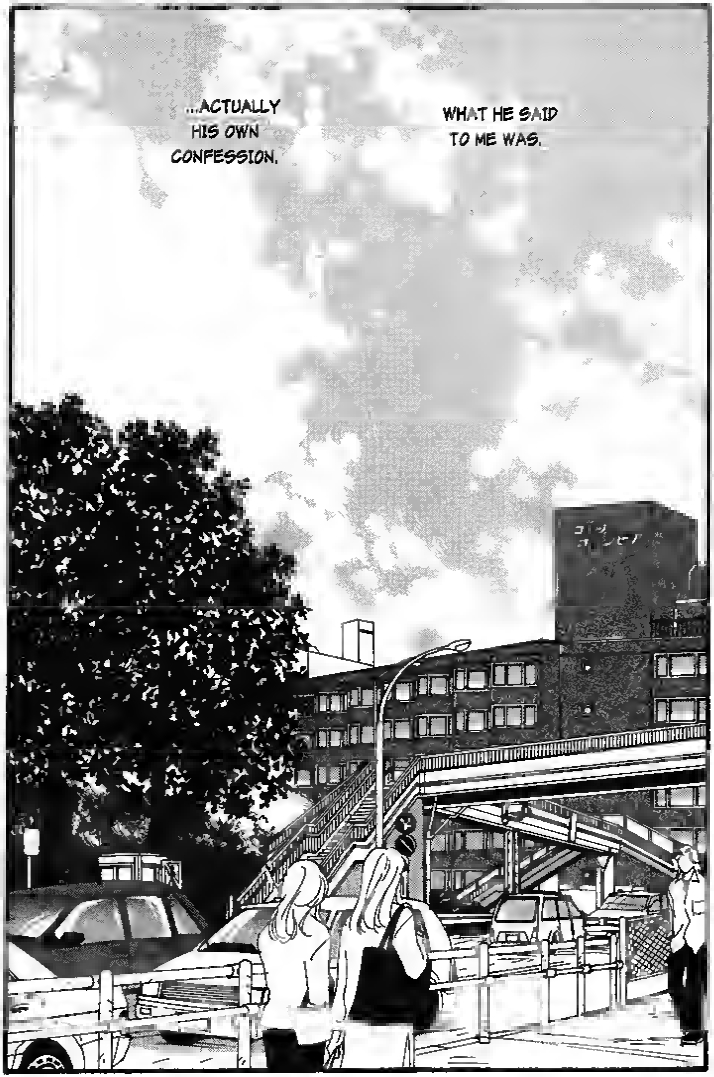
CAN WE GO SOMEWHERE TO TALK?
WHY? WE CAN TALK HERE.
WHO'S THAT GIRL IN OUR BED?
NO, LET'S GO SOMEWHERE QUIET AND TALK. THAT WAY, YOU CAN CALM DOWN.
I AM TOTALLY CALM.
TELL ME WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON!


ISN'T SHE COMING HOME LATE TODAY?
OOPS.
.....
WAIT A SECOND!
NATSU!
WELL...
I GOTTA GO NOW.

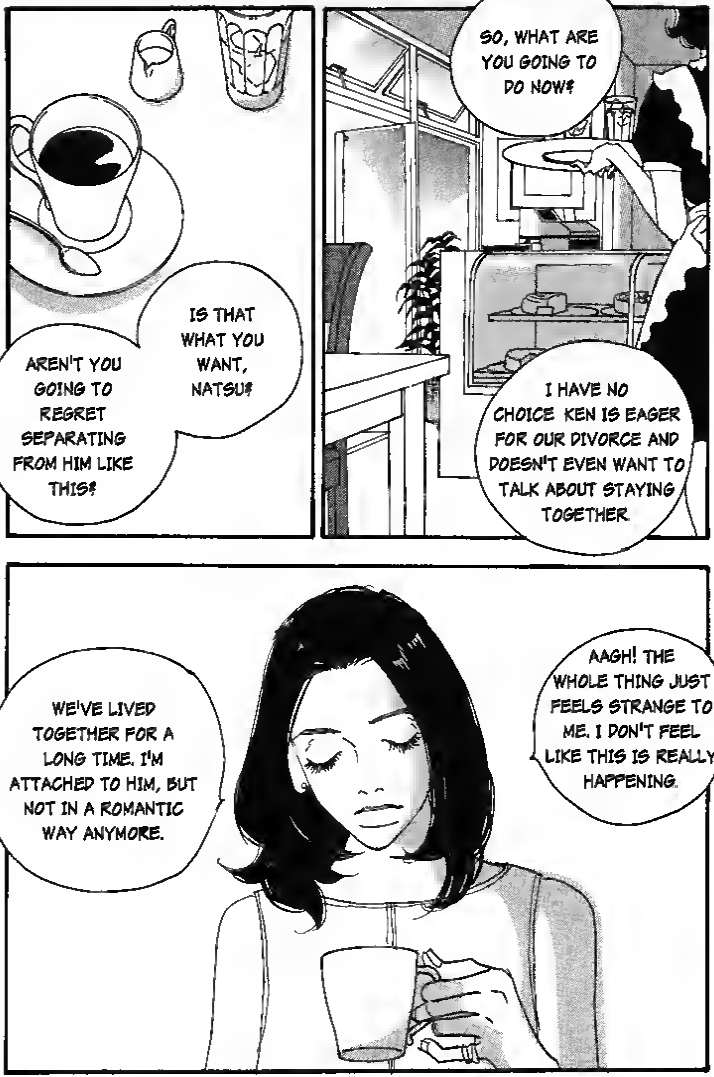
SORRY, IT'S ALL MY FAULT!
I'VE BEEN PLANNING TO TELL YOU THIS FOR A LONG TIME...
NATSU, PLEASE DIVORCE ME!!
I NEED HER. SHE IS THE ONLY ONE FOR ME!
I'M SORRY!!

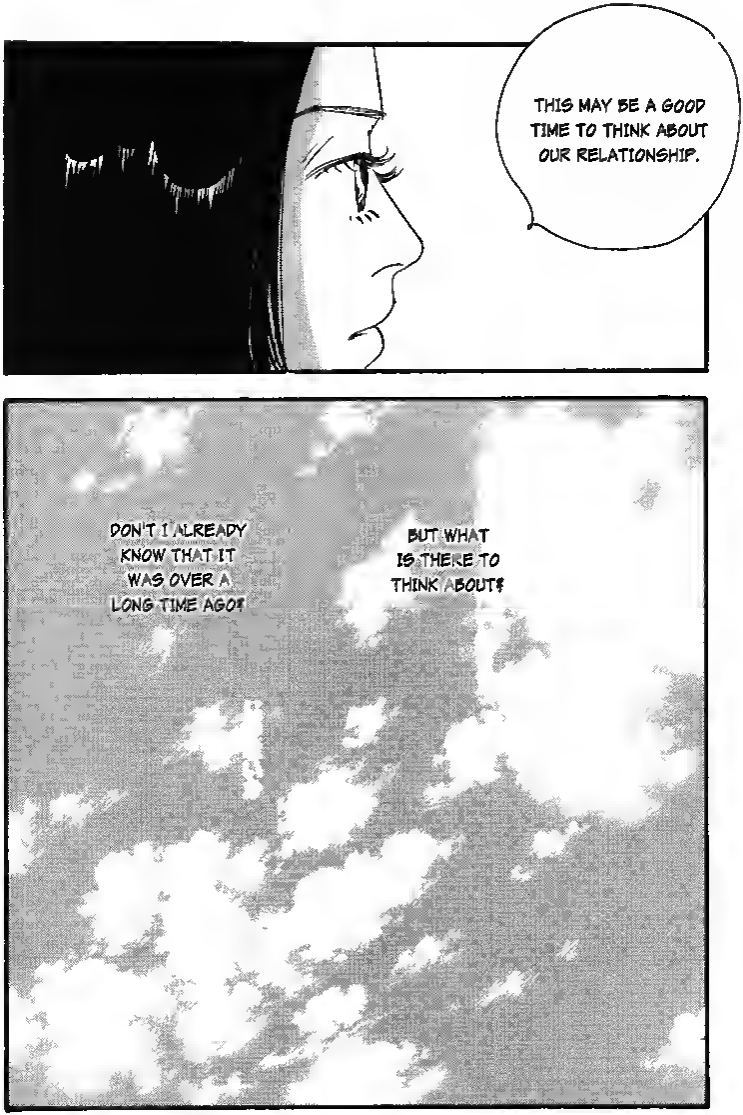

WOW, KEN, ARE YOU BEING SERIOUS? ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?
WHAT?
I DON'T LIKE ANYTHING COMPLICATED. I DON'T WANT THIS.
PLUS, IT'S NOT COOL.


ARE YOU CHEATING ON ME?
YOU'RE NOT LYING TO ME ARE YOU?


...ACTUALLY HIS OWN CONFESSION.
WHAT HE SAID TO ME WAS.

WHAT?! CHEATING ON YOU?!
YOUR SWEET, ATTENTIVE HUSBAND?!
BUT HE IS VERY SERIOUS ABOUT THIS GIRL.
SHE'S A FORMER COLLEGE PREP SCHOOL STUDENT OF HIS.
SHE LOOKS VERY YOUNG AND CONFIDENT.
WOW, THAT'S TERRIBLE!


AREN'T YOU GOING TO REGRET SEPARATING FROM HIM LIKE THIS?
IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT, NATSU?
SO, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NOW?
I HAVE NO CHOICE KEN IS EAGER FOR OUR DIVORCE AND DOESN'T EVEN WANT TO TALK ABOUT STAYING TOGETHER
WE'VE LIVED TOGETHER FOR A LONG TIME. I'M ATTACHED TO HIM, BUT NOT IN A ROMANTIC WAY ANYMORE.
AAGH! THE WHOLE THING JUST FEELS STRANGE TO ME. I DON'T FEEL LIKE THIS IS REALLY HAPPENING.

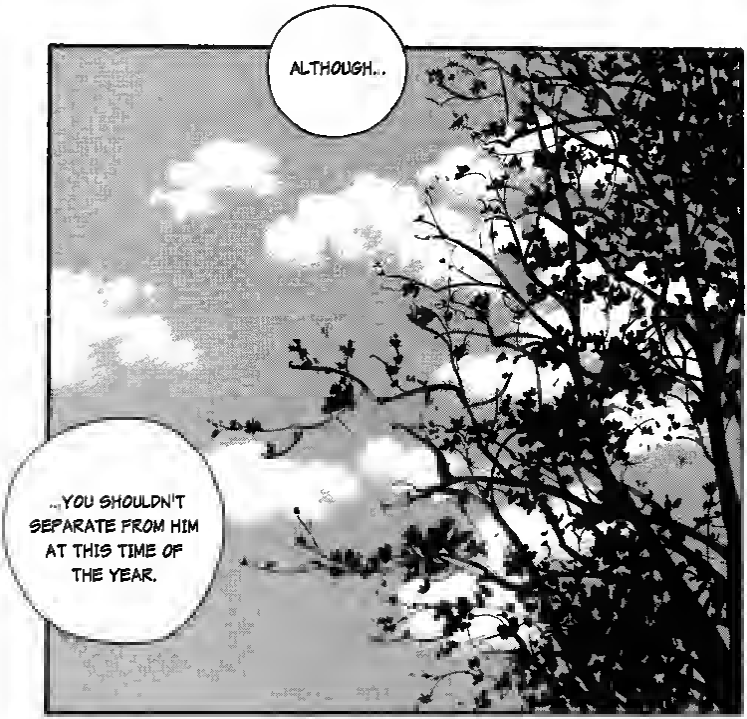

THIS MAY BE A GOOD TIME TO THINK ABOUT OUR RELATIONSHIP.
DON'T I ALREADY KNOW THAT IT WAS OVER A LONG TIME AGO?
BUT WHAT IS THERE TO THINK ABOUT?

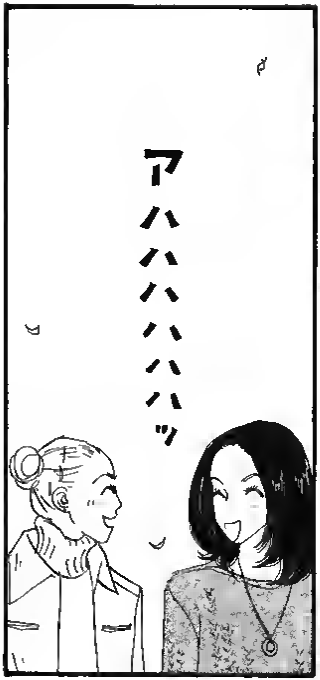
第2話

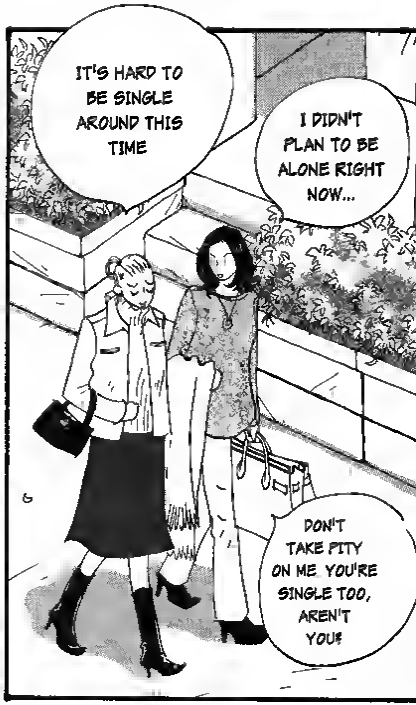
WHAT DO OUR FIVE YEARS TOGETHER MEAN TO ME?

HE KEPT APOLOGIZING, BUT DIDN'T EVEN WANT TO DISCUSS OUR RELATIONSHIP.

KEN LEFT HOME SHORTLY AFTER THAT.







MY LIFE HASN'T CHANGED A BIT EXCEPT THAT KEN IS NO LONGER IN IT.

A GOOD JOB THAT KEEPS ME BUSY.

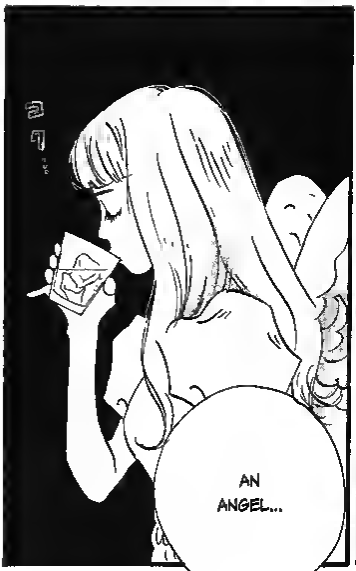
SWEET, FUN GIRLFRIENDS.

I CAN'T SLEEP.
.....
WHAT DID THESE FIVE YEARS CHANGE ME?
I NEED TO GET UP EARLY TOMORROW MORNING

KEN WILL ONLY DRINK THIS BRAND OF GIN.

BOMBAY
SAPPHIRE
THAT'S ALL I HAVE HERE.

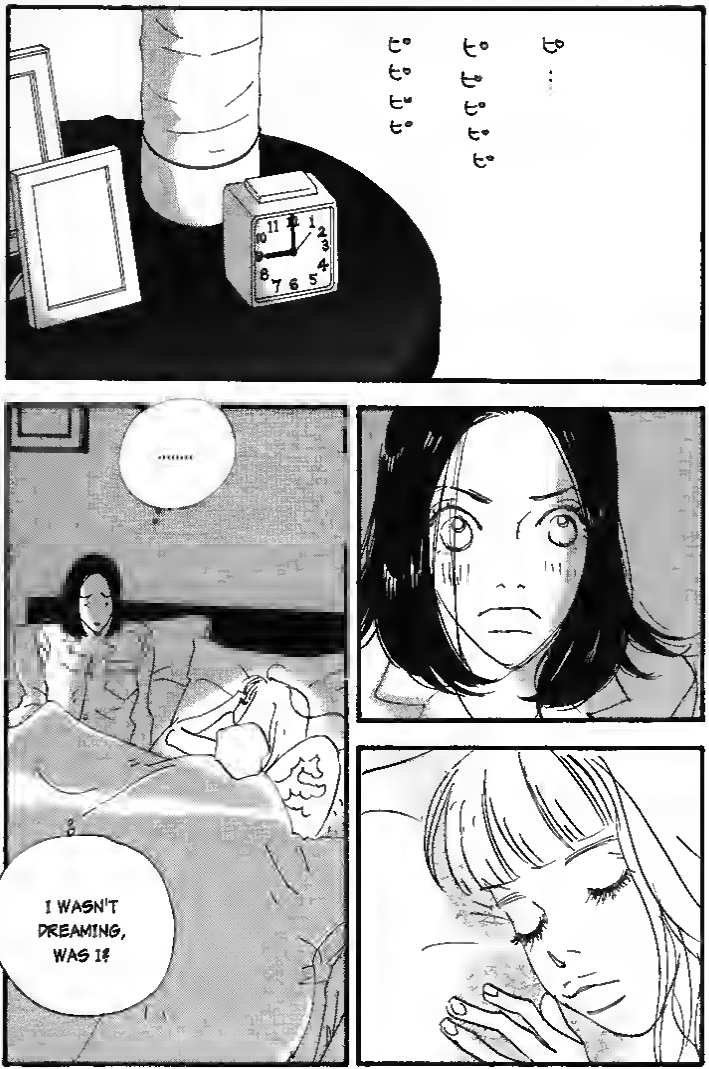
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL MOON...


AN
ANGEL...

WOW.
WHAT?

GO TO SLEEP.
I HAVE TO SLEEP.
.....
I MUST BE REALLY TIRED.
MORE TIRED THAN I THOUGHT, ACTUALLY...
IS SOMETHING IN MY BED?
NO, I MUST BE DREAMING.

SINCE KEN HAS BEEN GONE, I HAVE NOTICED HOW BIG MY BED IS.
I CAN'T GET WARM ENOUGH, NO MATTER HOW MANY BLANKETS I HAVE OVER ME.
WOW, IT'S SO WARM TONIGHT.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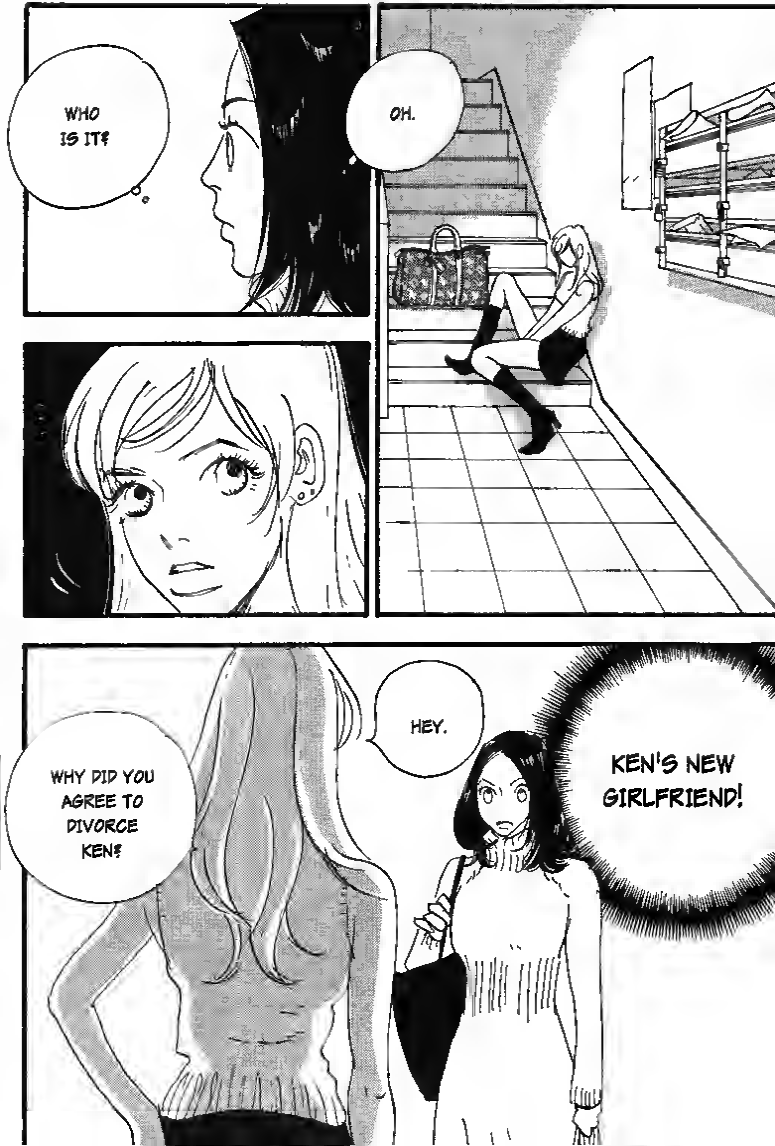
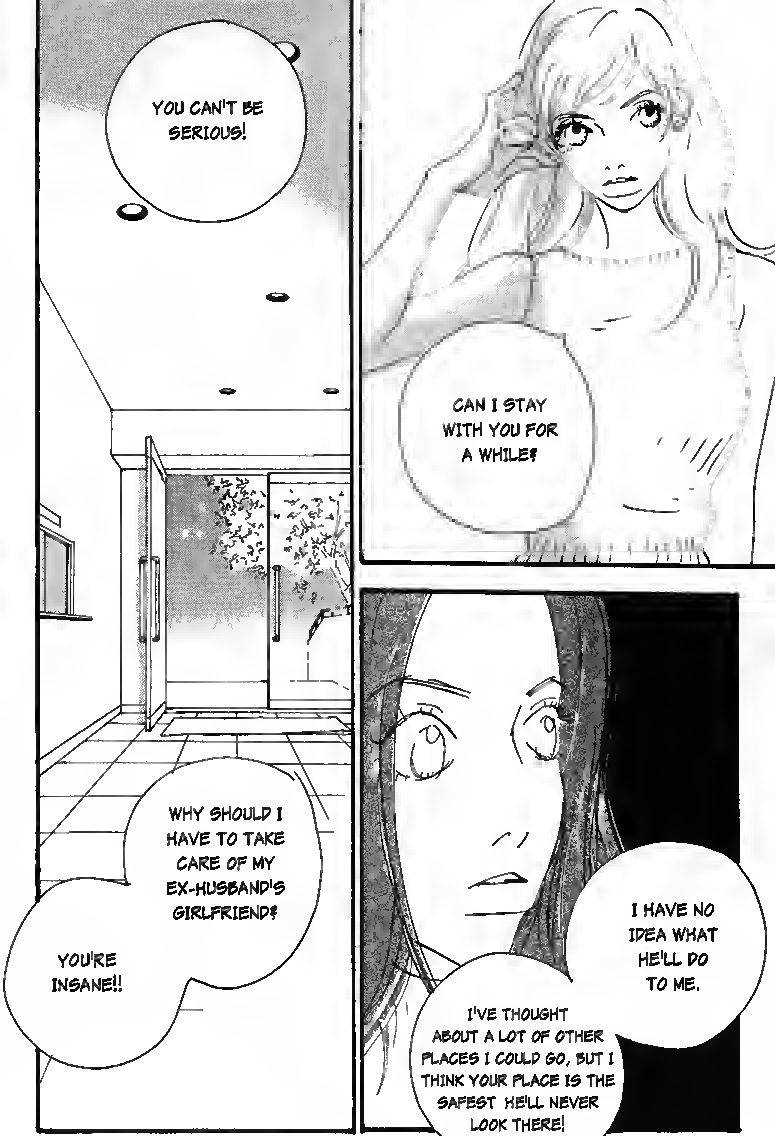
ピピピピピ
.....
I WASN'T DREAMING, WAS I?

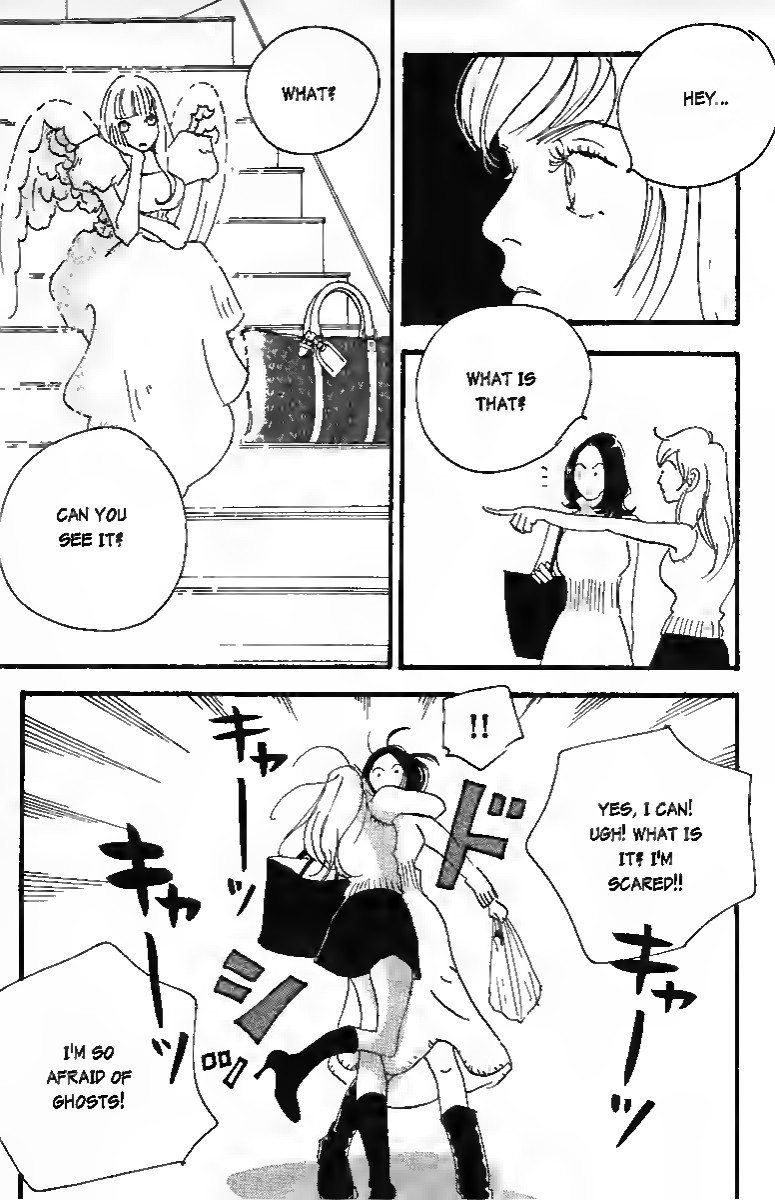
SINCE THEN, THE ANGEL HAS BEEN HANGING AROUND
I'M GETTING USED TO HAVING HER HERE NOW
SHE'S LIKE THE CAT THAT I HAD FOR SO LONG.

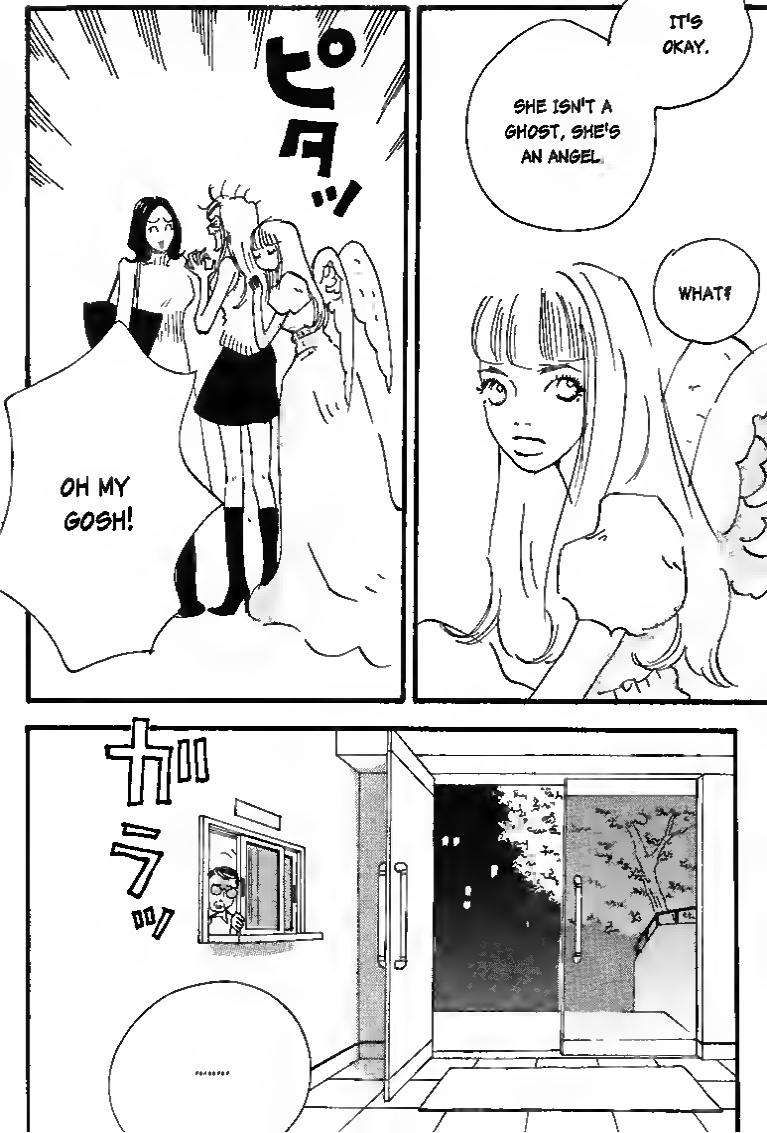
I'VE DISCOVERED THAT HER FAVORITE DRINK IS GIN.
山本酒店
I NEVER THOUGHT THAT I WOULD BE BUYING BOMBAY AGAIN AFTER KEN LEFT.

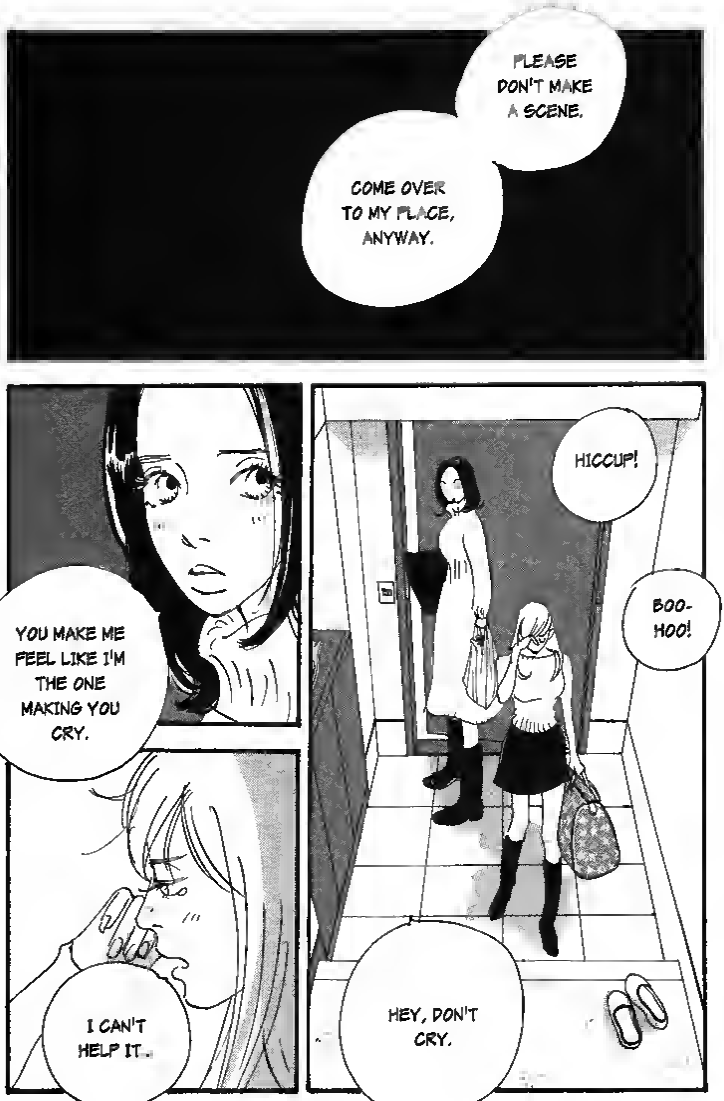

WHO IS IT?
OH.
WHY DID YOU AGREE TO DIVORCE KEN?
HEY.
KEN'S NEW GIRLFRIEND!

I HAVE A PROBLEM. HE'S REALLY ANNOYING.
HE'S A STALKER, YOU KNOW—A MAJOR STALKER.
WHAT?
THAT'S A PROBLEM BETWEEN HIM AND YOU.
IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS. WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO ABOUT IT?
HE'S WAITING FOR ME OUTSIDE OF MY HOUSE EVERYDAY! IT'S CREEPY!
HE CALLS ME MORE THAN TEN TIMES A DAY. I CAN'T STAND IT!

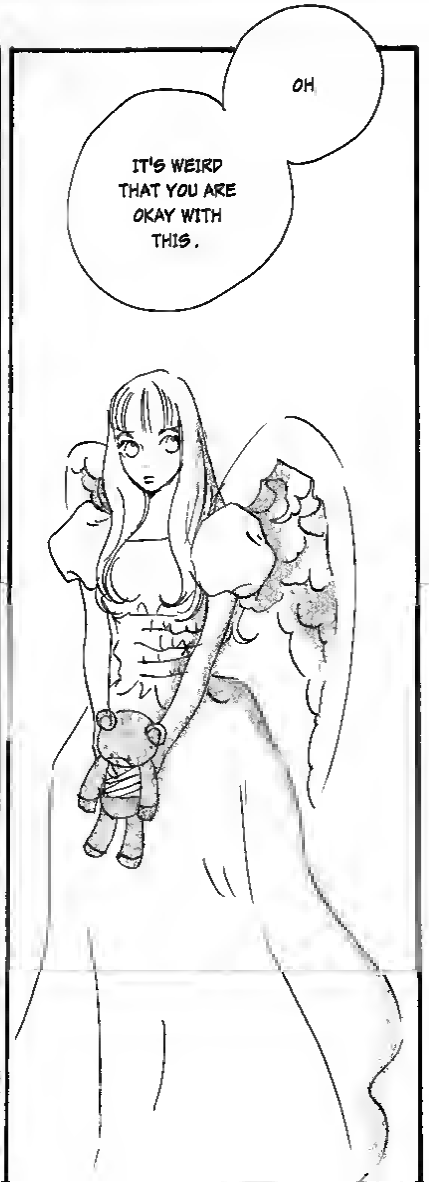

YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!
CAN I STAY WITH YOU FOR A WHILE?
I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT A LOT OF OTHER PLACES I COULD GO, BUT I THINK YOUR PLACE IS THE SAFEST. HE'LL NEVER LOOK THERE!
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT HE'LL DO TO ME.
WHY SHOULD I HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF MY EX-HUSBAND'S GIRLFRIEND?
YOU'RE INSANE!!

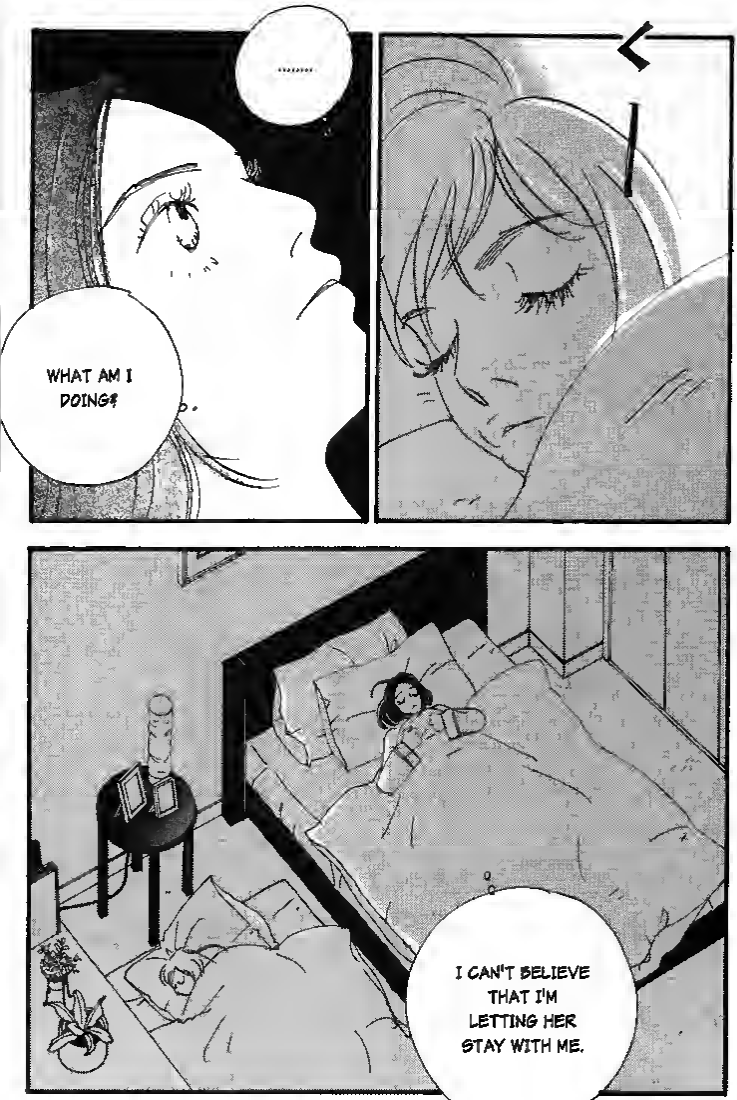

WHAT?
CAN YOU SEE IT?
HEY...
WHAT IS THAT?
!!
キャーッ
ドシーン
キャーッ
YES, I CAN! UGH! WHAT IS IT? I'M SCARED!!
I'M SO AFRAID OF GHOSTS!

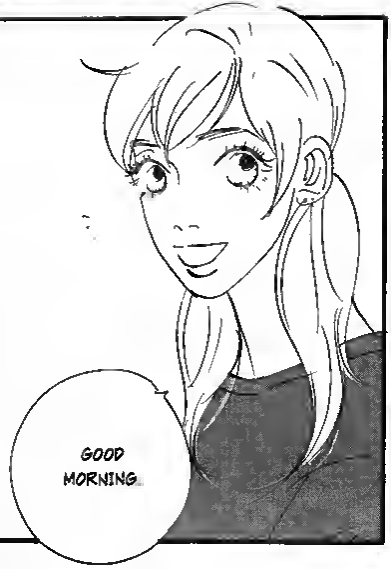

ピタッ
OH MY GOSH!
IT'S OKAY.
SHE ISN'T A GHOST, SHE'S AN ANGEL.
WHAT?
カラ
ラ

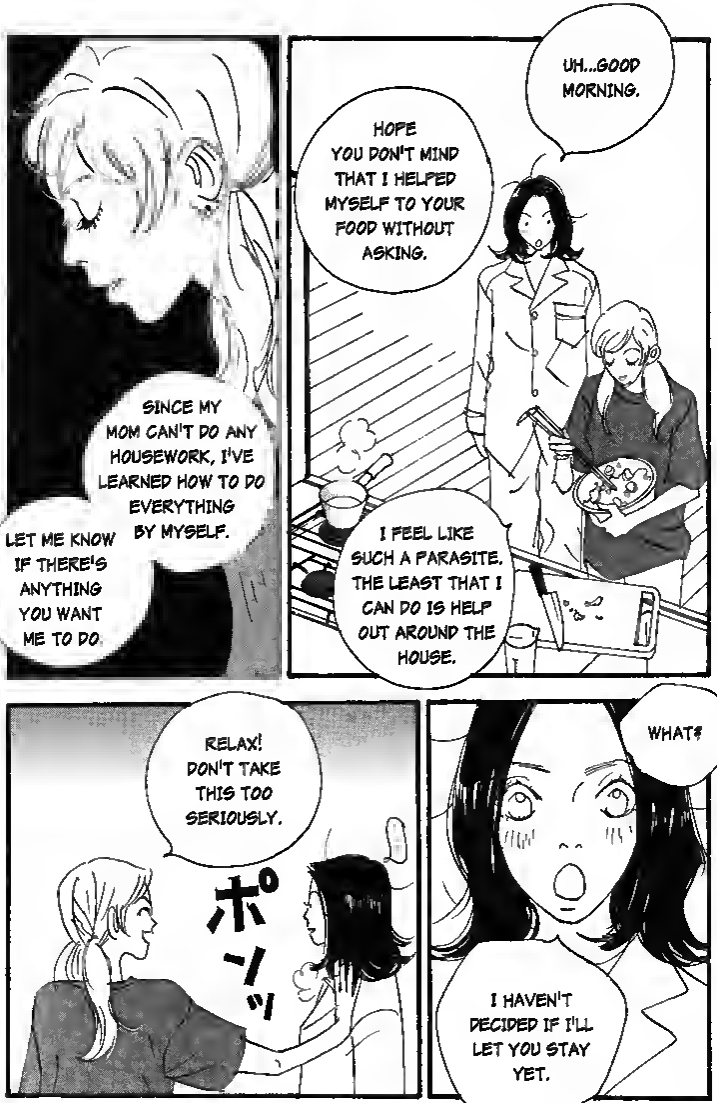

PLEASE DON'T MAKE A SCENE.
COME OVER TO MY PLACE, ANYWAY.
HICCUP!
BOO-HOO!
HEY, DON'T CRY.
YOU MAKE ME FEEL LIKE I'M THE ONE MAKING YOU CRY.
I CAN'T HELP IT.

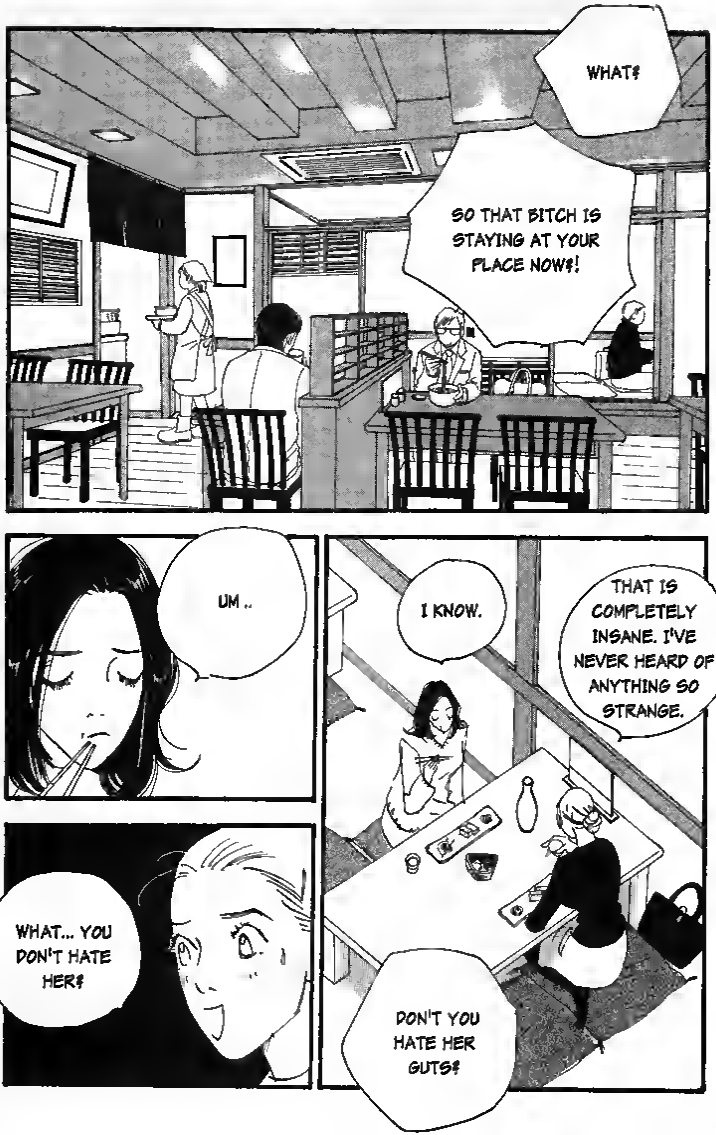
HOW ARE YOU FEELING?
ARE YOU OKAY NOW?
YES, THANK YOU.
I GUESS I'M GETTING USED TO SEEING THAT THING.
WAS KEN ABLE TO SEE HER?
I DOUBT IT SHE SHOWED UP HERE SHORTLY AFTER HE LEFT.


OH
IT'S WEIRD THAT YOU ARE OKAY WITH THIS.

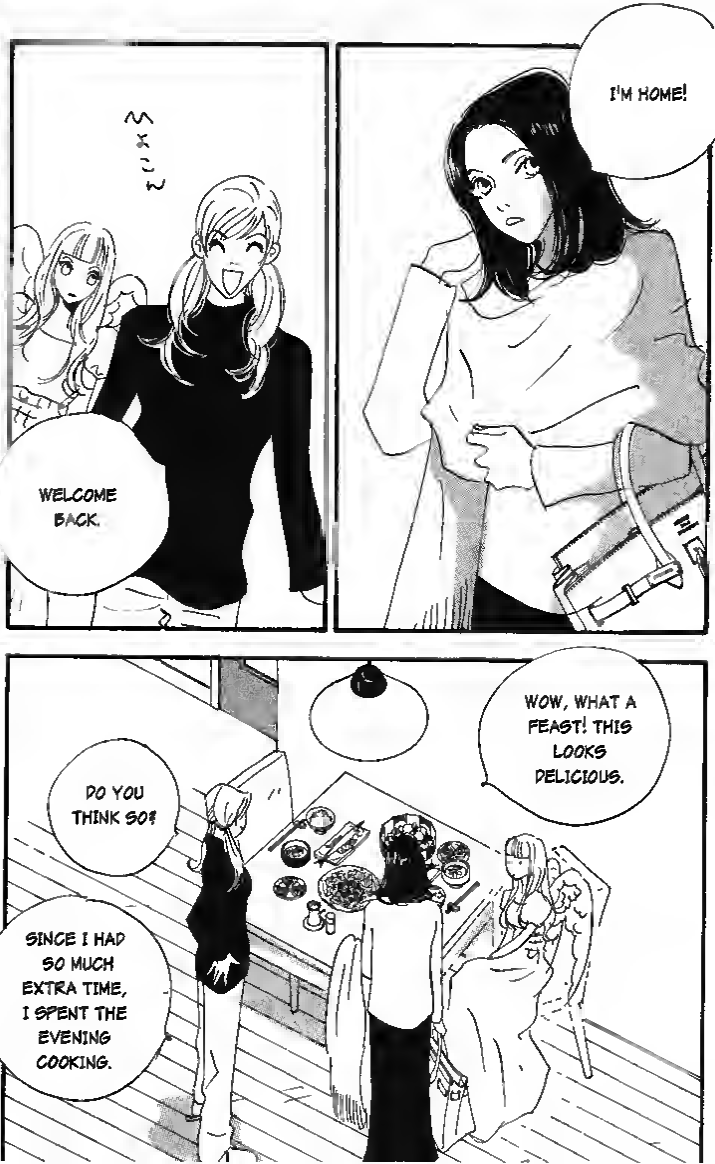

WHAT AM I DOING?
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT I'M LETTING HER STAY WITH ME.

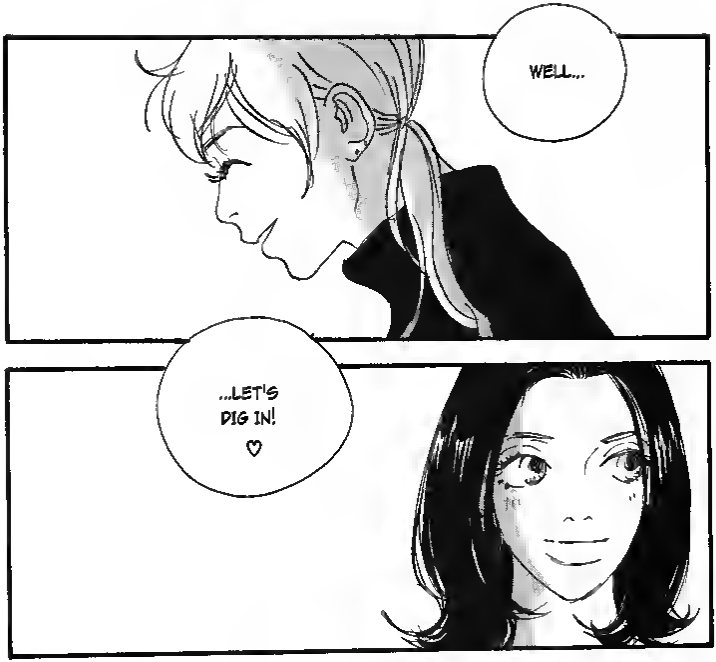

GOOD MORNING.


SINCE MY MOM CAN'T DO ANY HOUSEWORK, I'VE LEARNED HOW TO DO EVERYTHING BY MYSELF.
LET ME KNOW IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU WANT ME TO DO.
UH...GOOD MORNING.
HOPE YOU DON'T MIND THAT I HELPED MYSELF TO YOUR FOOD WITHOUT ASKING.
I FEEL LIKE SUCH A PARASITE. THE LEAST THAT I CAN DO IS HELP OUT AROUND THE HOUSE.
RELAX! DON'T TAKE THIS TOO SERIOUSLY.
ポンッ
WHAT?
I HAVEN'T DECIDED IF I'LL LET YOU STAY YET.


WHAT?
SO THAT BITCH IS STAYING AT YOUR PLACE NOW?!
UM ..
I KNOW.
THAT IS COMPLETELY INSANE. I'VE NEVER HEARD OF ANYTHING SO STRANGE.
WHAT... YOU DON'T HATE HER?
DON'T YOU HATE HER GUTS?

I CAN'T LEAVE THEM ALONE.
TO BE HONEST, LATELY I FEEL LIKE ONE OF THOSE OLD LADIES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD WHO TAKES CARE OF ALL OF THE STRAY CATS
WELL.
A GIRL LIKE THAT IS NOTHING BUT TROUBLE
.....
I GUESS IT'S COOL IF YOU'RE OKAY WITH IT.
BUT YOU SHOULD THINK ABOUT IT MORE


I'M HOME!
ただいま
WELCOME BACK.
WOW, WHAT A FEAST! THIS LOOKS DELICIOUS.
DO YOU THINK SO?
SINCE I HAD SO MUCH EXTRA TIME, I SPENT THE EVENING COOKING.



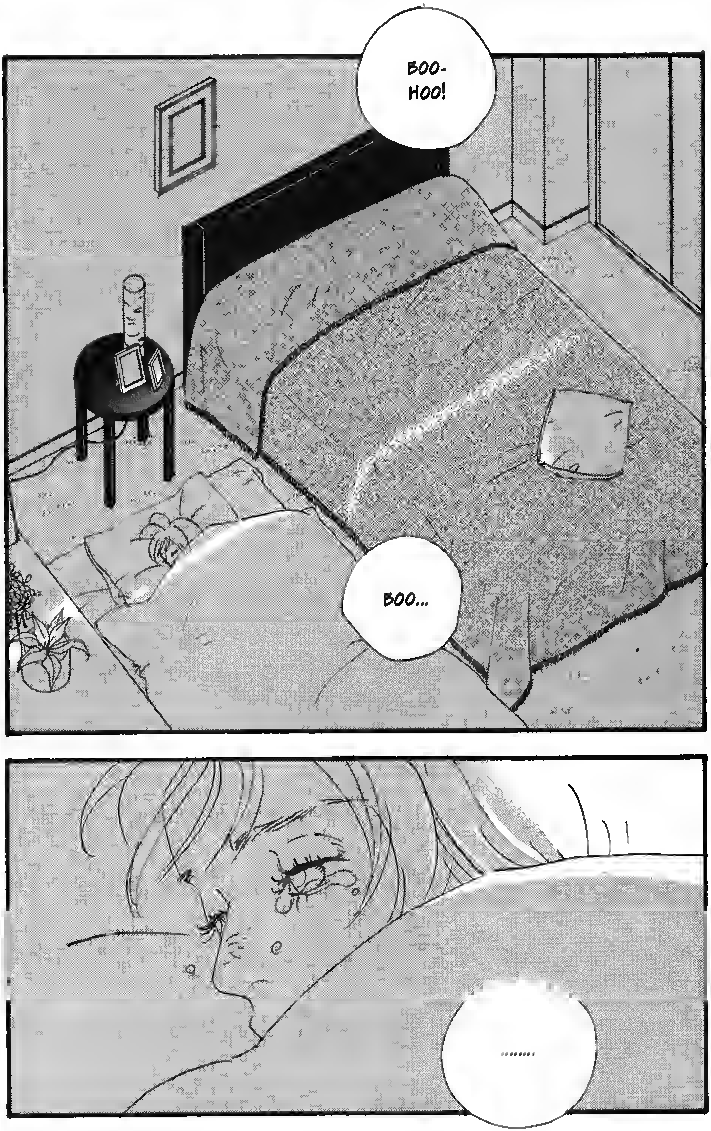
SURPRISINGLY, I ACTUALLY ENJOYED HAVING DINNER WITH EMI. WHAT A SHOCKER!

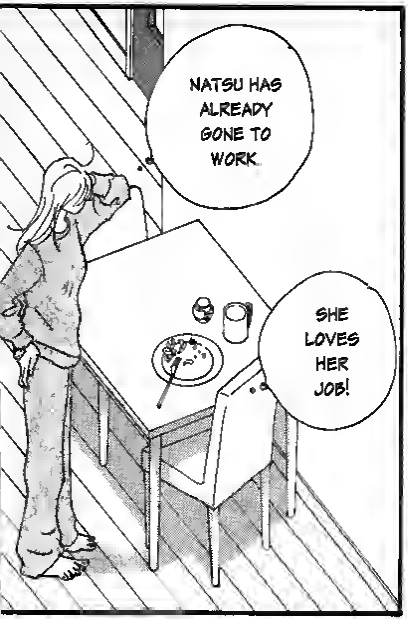
第3話

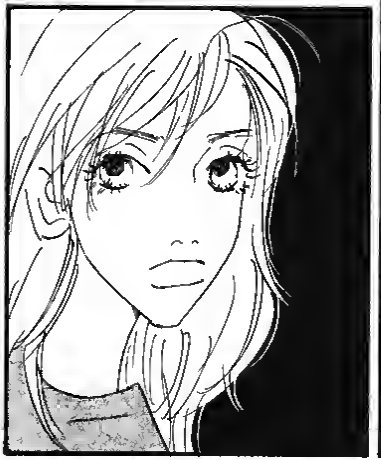
EMI, EMI.

HEY,
DON'T CRY
ANYMORE

I'M WITH
YOU ALL
THE TIME


BOO-
HOO!
BOO...
.....

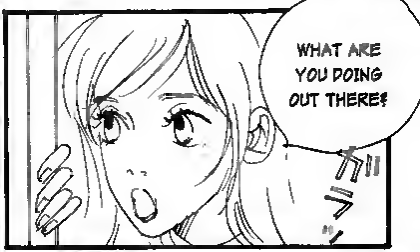


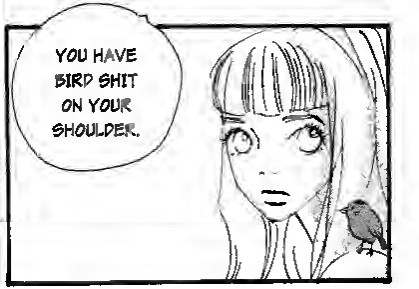


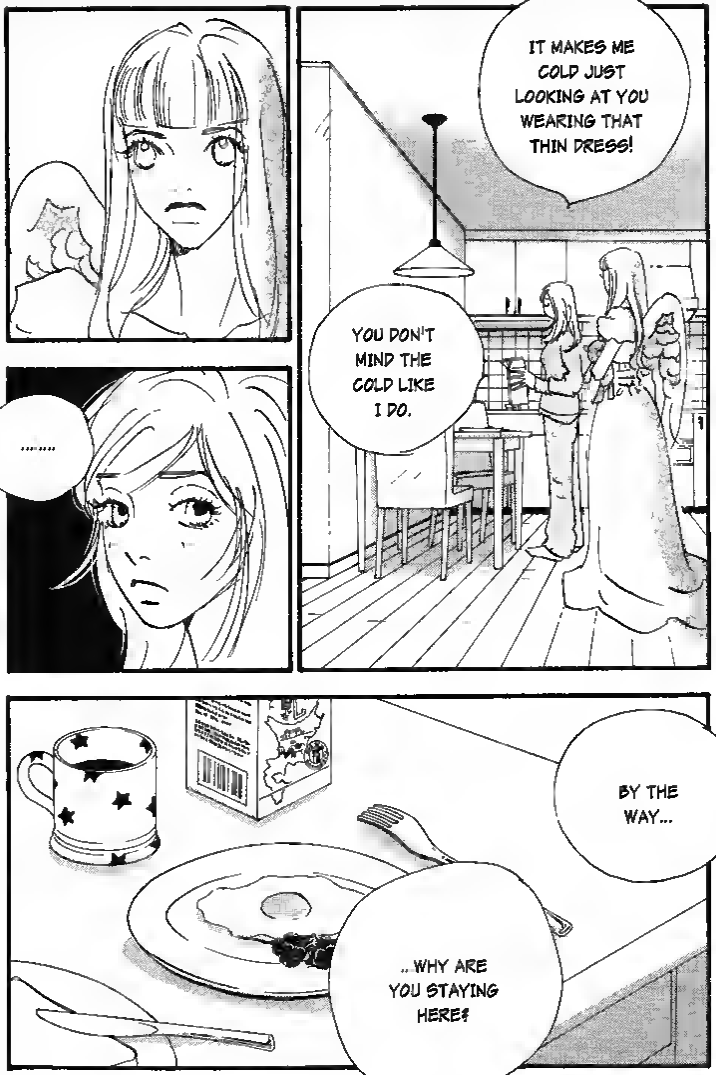
I WAS CRYING WHEN I GOT UP.

WHEN I WAS A LITTLE GIRL, WAS I THIS WHINY?

HEY, ISN'T IT TOO COLD TO BE OUTSIDE?

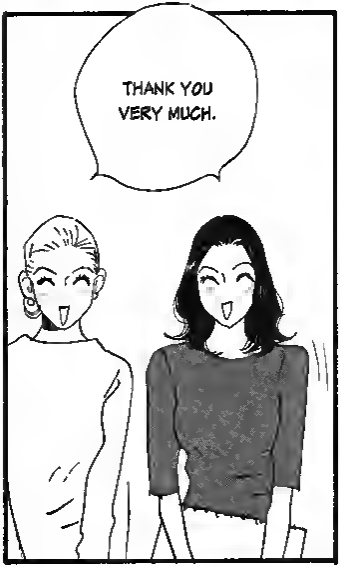

WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT THERE?

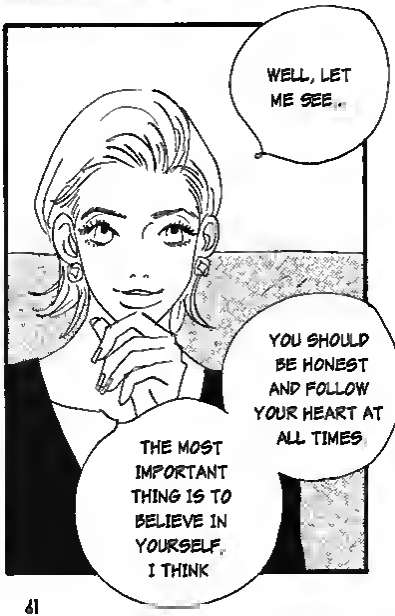

YOU HAVE BIRD SHIT ON YOUR SHOULDER.

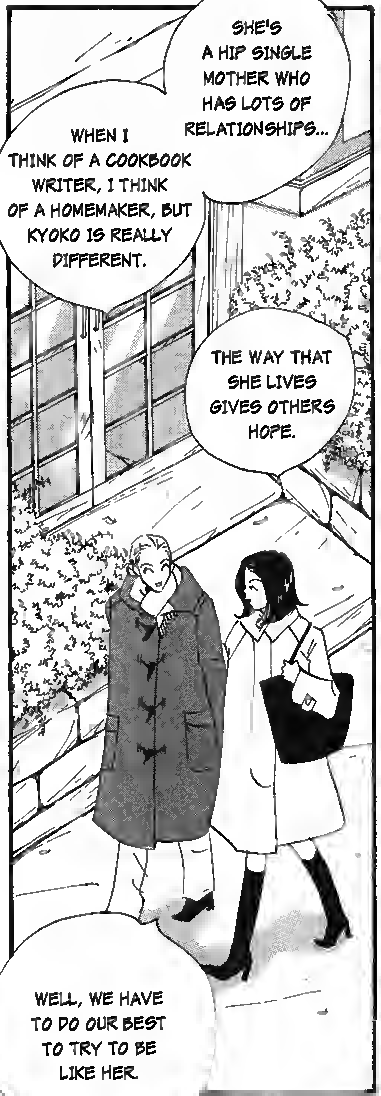

IT MAKES ME COLD JUST LOOKING AT YOU WEARING THAT THIN DRESS!
YOU DON'T MIND THE COLD LIKE I DO.
.....
BY THE WAY...
..WHY ARE YOU STAYING HERE?

WELL, WE'RE A LOT ALIKE, I GUESS.
WE ARE BOTH MOOCHING OFF NATSU.
DEEP DOWN, WE'RE JUST THE SAME...

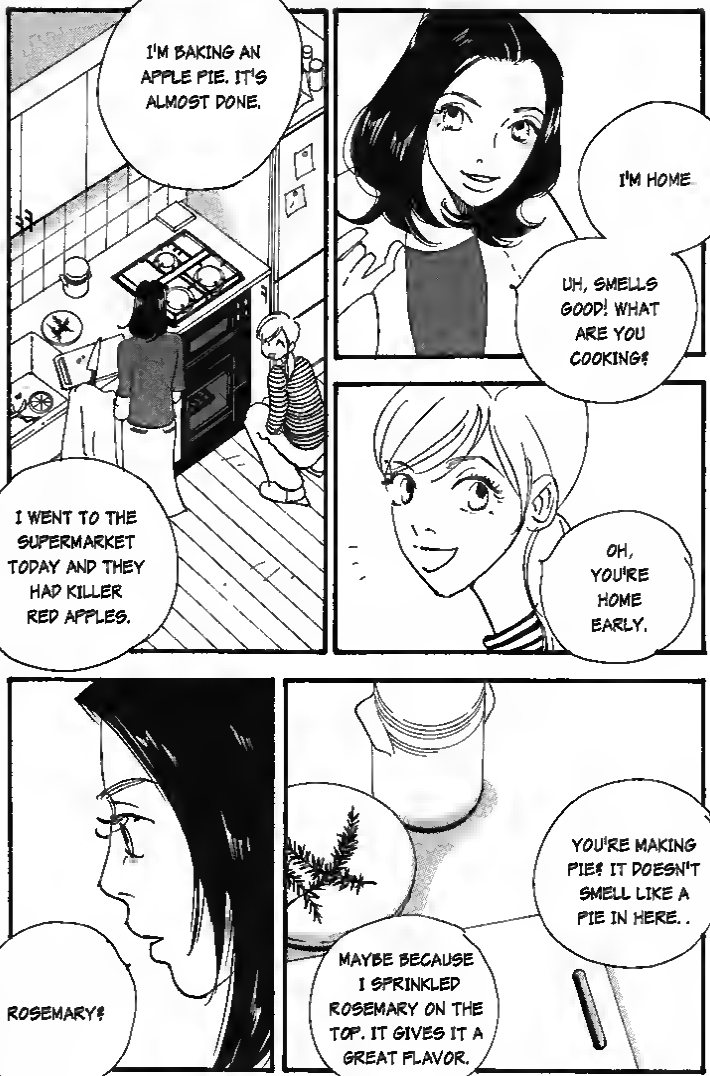
LASTLY, IS THERE A MESSAGE THAT YOU CAN LEAVE WITH OUR READERS?


THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

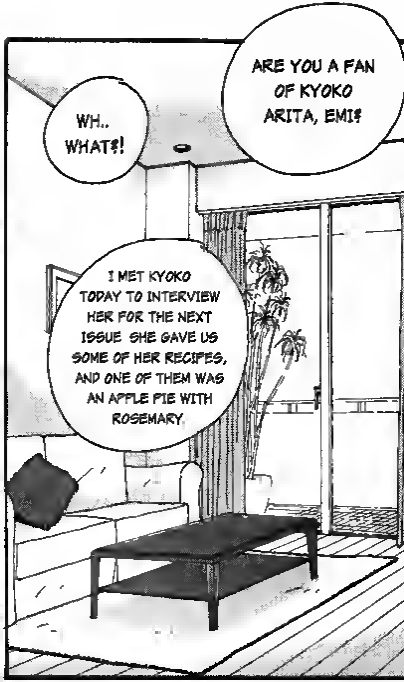

WELL, LET ME SEE...
YOU SHOULD BE HONEST AND FOLLOW YOUR HEART AT ALL TIMES
THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS TO BELIEVE IN YOURSELF, I THINK


SHE'S A HIP SINGLE MOTHER WHO HAS LOTS OF RELATIONSHIPS...
WHEN I THINK OF A COOKBOOK WRITER, I THINK OF A HOMEMAKER, BUT KYOKO IS REALLY DIFFERENT.
THE WAY THAT SHE LIVES GIVES OTHERS HOPE.
WELL, WE HAVE TO DO OUR BEST TO TRY TO BE LIKE HER.

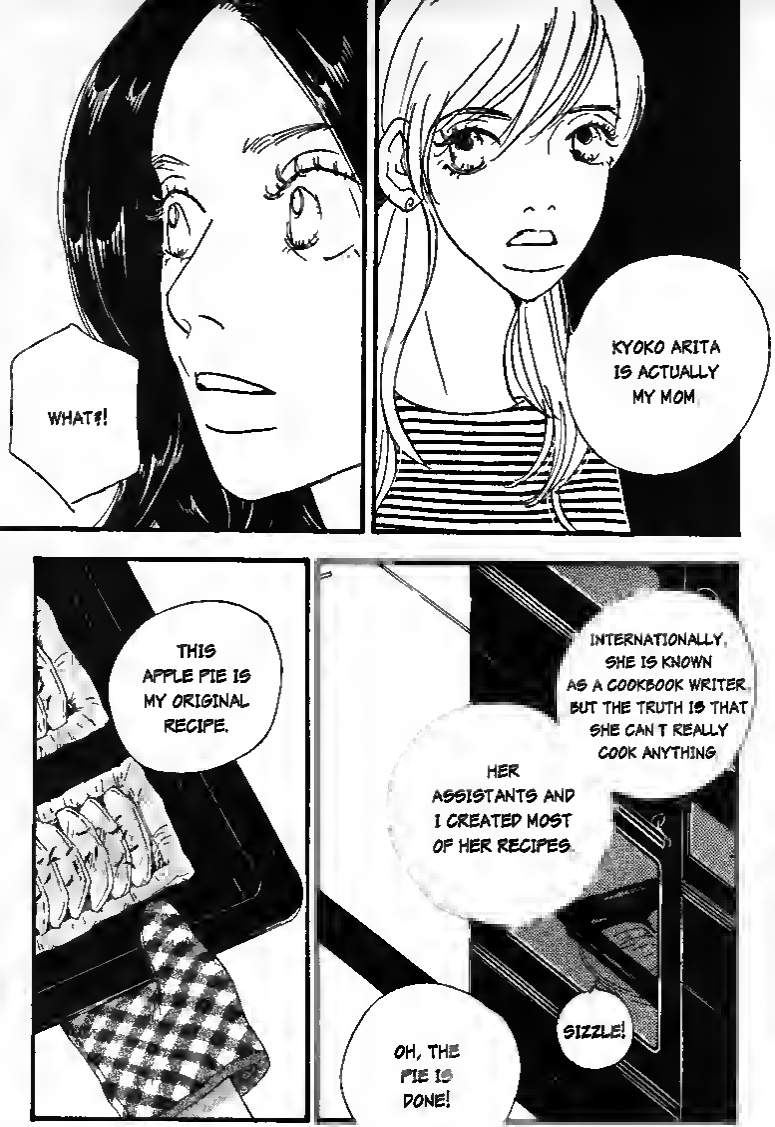
WOW, KYOKO ARITA WAS SO COOL AND AMAZING, WASN'T SHE?
SHE'S BEAUTIFUL, TOO. DOESN'T SHE HAVE A DAUGHTER WHO'S LIKE 20 YEARS OLD? SHE DOESN'T LOOK OLD ENOUGH! SHE'S AGELESS.

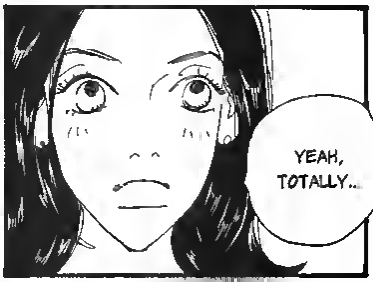

I'M BAKING AN APPLE PIE. IT'S ALMOST DONE.
I'M HOME.
UH, SMELLS GOOD! WHAT ARE YOU COOKING?
I WENT TO THE SUPERMARKET TODAY AND THEY HAD KILLER RED APPLES.
OH, YOU'RE HOME EARLY.
ROSEMARY?
YOU'RE MAKING PIE? IT DOESN'T SMELL LIKE A PIE IN HERE..
MAYBE BECAUSE I SPRINKLED ROSEMARY ON THE TOP. IT GIVES IT A GREAT FLAVOR.

OH, BUT THAT RECIPE WAS...
...A SPECIAL RECIPE SHE GAVE US EXCLUSIVELY FOR OUR MAGAZINE.


ARE YOU A FAN OF KYOKO ARITA, EMI?
WH.. WHAT?!
I MET KYOKO TODAY TO INTERVIEW HER FOR THE NEXT ISSUE. SHE GAVE US SOME OF HER RECIPES, AND ONE OF THEM WAS AN APPLE PIE WITH ROSEMARY.

I SEE.
THE RECIPE WILL BE INTRODUCED IN YOUR MAGAZINE ..


WHAT?!
KYOKO ARITA IS ACTUALLY MY MOM
THIS APPLE PIE IS MY ORIGINAL RECIPE.
INTERNATIONALLY, SHE IS KNOWN AS A COOKBOOK WRITER. BUT THE TRUTH IS THAT SHE CAN'T REALLY COOK ANYTHING.
HER ASSISTANTS AND I CREATED MOST OF HER RECIPES.
SIZZLE!
OH, THE PIE IS DONE!



MOM...

MOM, WHERE ARE YOU?

EMI.

DON'T CRY, EMI.

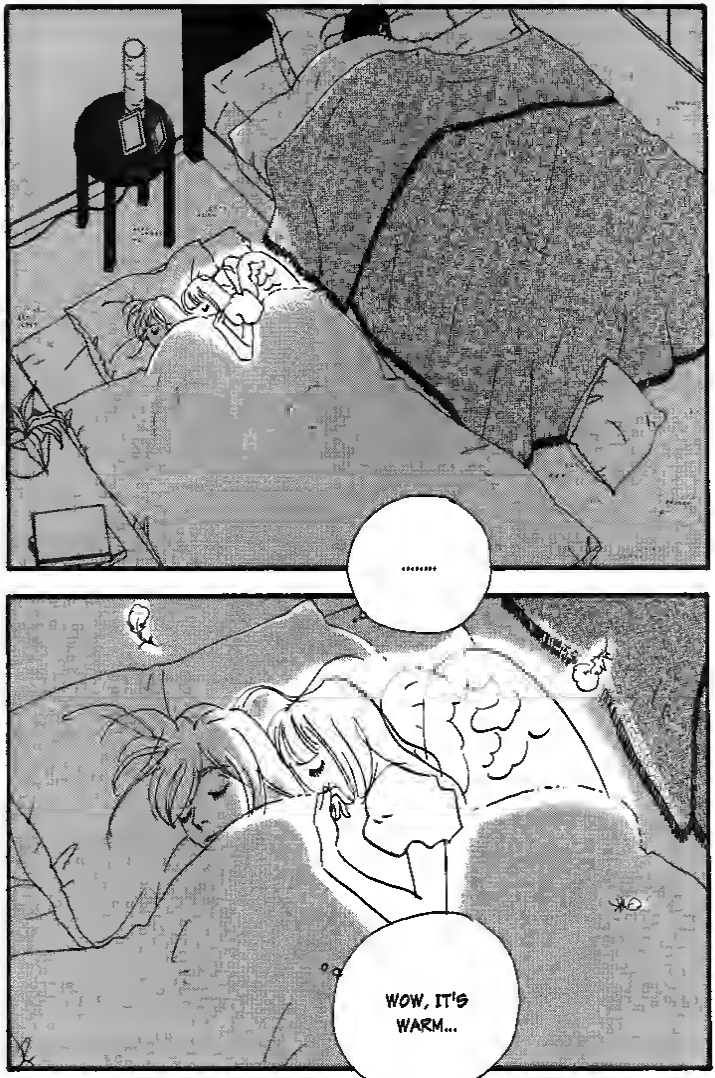
EVERYTHING IS GONNA BE ALL RIGHT. DON'T BE SCARED.

STOP CRYING. I'M WITH YOU NOW.

IN AN INSTANT, SHE WAS RIGHT BESIDE ME AND KEPT ME COMPANY.

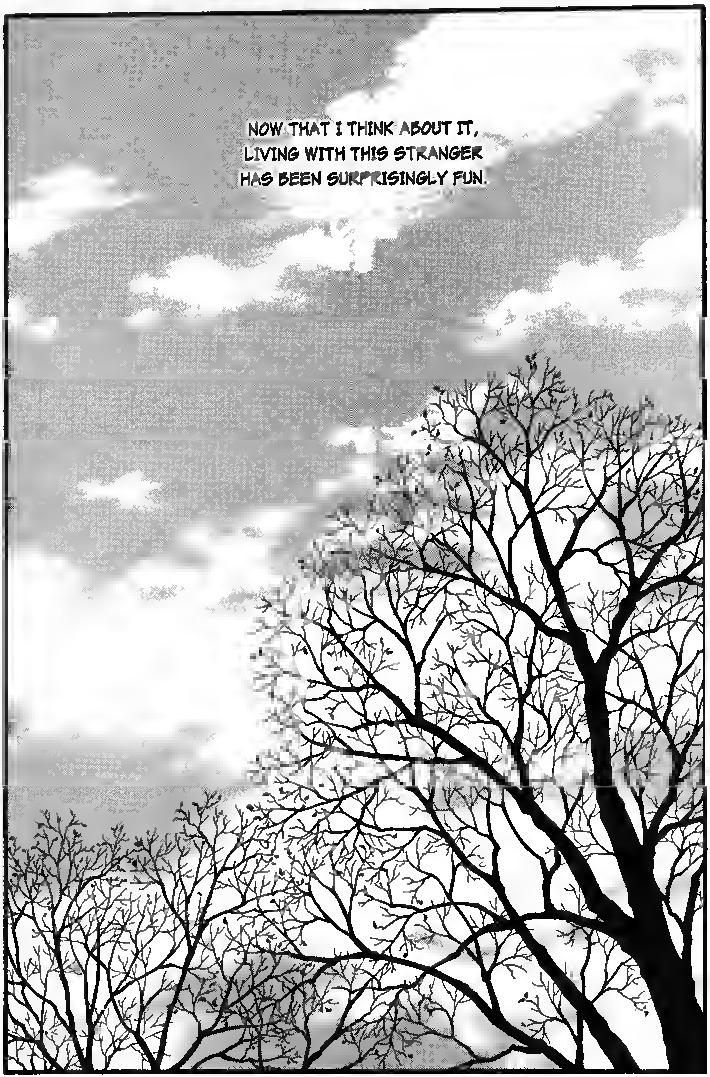
AS TIME WENT BY, I FORGOT ABOUT IT. UNTIL NOW

I WONDER WHO SHE WAS.


.....
WOW, IT'S WARM...

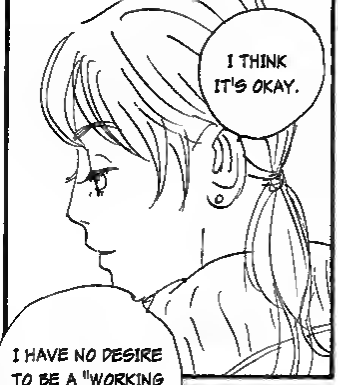
MAYBE I'VE BEEN WITH AN ANGEL
LIKE THIS SINCE I WAS A CHILD.

第4話

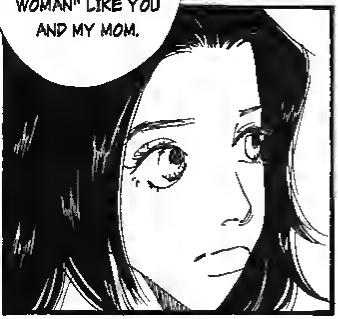

NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT,
LIVING WITH THIS STRANGER
HAS BEEN SURPRISINGLY FUN.

のスープ
HMM, THIS LOOKS SO DELICIOUS!
HEY, IS THIS YOUR RECIPE, EMI?
IT'S ACTUALLY EASY TO COOK.
IF YOU HAVE A SOUP MIX, YOU CAN FIX IT RIGHT AWAY.
YEAH.
OYSTER SOUP.

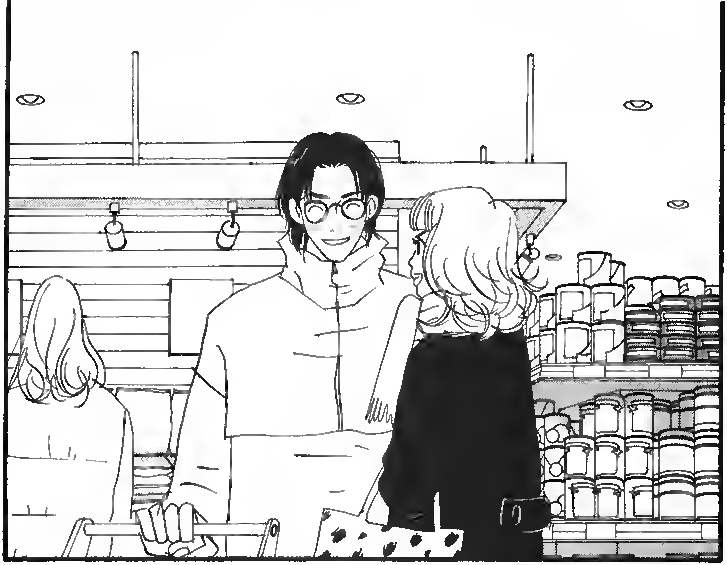
HEY, EMI
WHY DON'T YOU USE YOUR COOKING SKILLS TO START YOUR CAREER?
CAREER?
I'M NOT GOOD AT COOKING...
AMAZING!
I REALLY ADMIRE PEOPLE WHO CAN COOK LIKE YOU CAN
I LIKE TO EAT GOOD FOOD MORE THAN I LIKE TO COOK.
SO, I COOK BECAUSE I WANT TO EAT SOMETHING DELICIOUS
UM. .
I'VE NEVER THOUGHT SERIOUSLY ABOUT MY CAREER.
YOU CAN START YOUR CAREER AS A FOOD WRITER OR YOU COULD OPEN YOUR OWN RESTAURANT. THERE ARE SO MANY WAYS YOU COULD BE A SUCCESS WHAT DO YOU THINK?

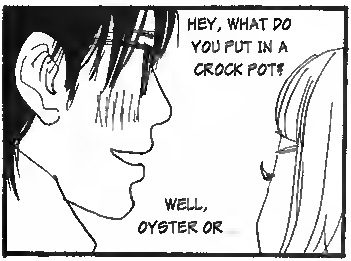

I THINK IT'S OKAY.

IT TAKES ALL THE FUN OUT OF IT WHEN YOU TURN YOUR HOBBY INTO A CAREER.
I'D RATHER GET MARRIED LIKE OTHER PEOPLE AND BECOME AN ORDINARY HOUSEWIFE.
ORDINARY HOUSEWIFE?! YOU'RE TOO TALENTED TO WASTE YOUR TALENTS

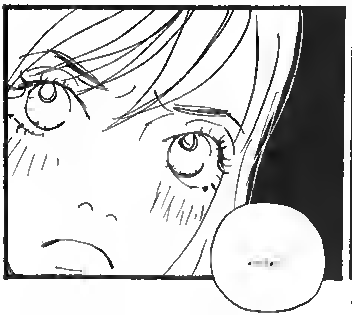

I HAVE NO DESIRE TO BE A "WORKING WOMAN" LIKE YOU AND MY MOM.

GROCERY SHOPPING AGAIN...
WHAT A JOY...
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO EAT?
WHY AM I ASKING YOU? YOU ARE PERFECTLY HAPPY WITH JUST GIN AND LIME...

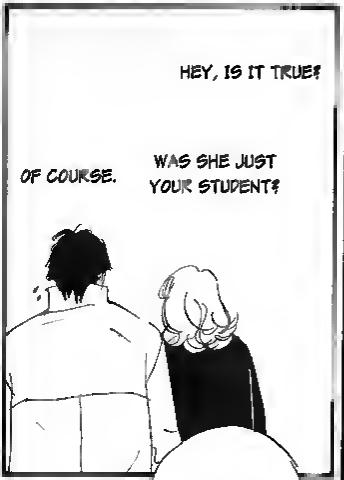



HEY, WHAT DO YOU PUT IN A CROCK POT?
WELL, OYSTER OR

NO WAY!!
THAT'S KEN?!



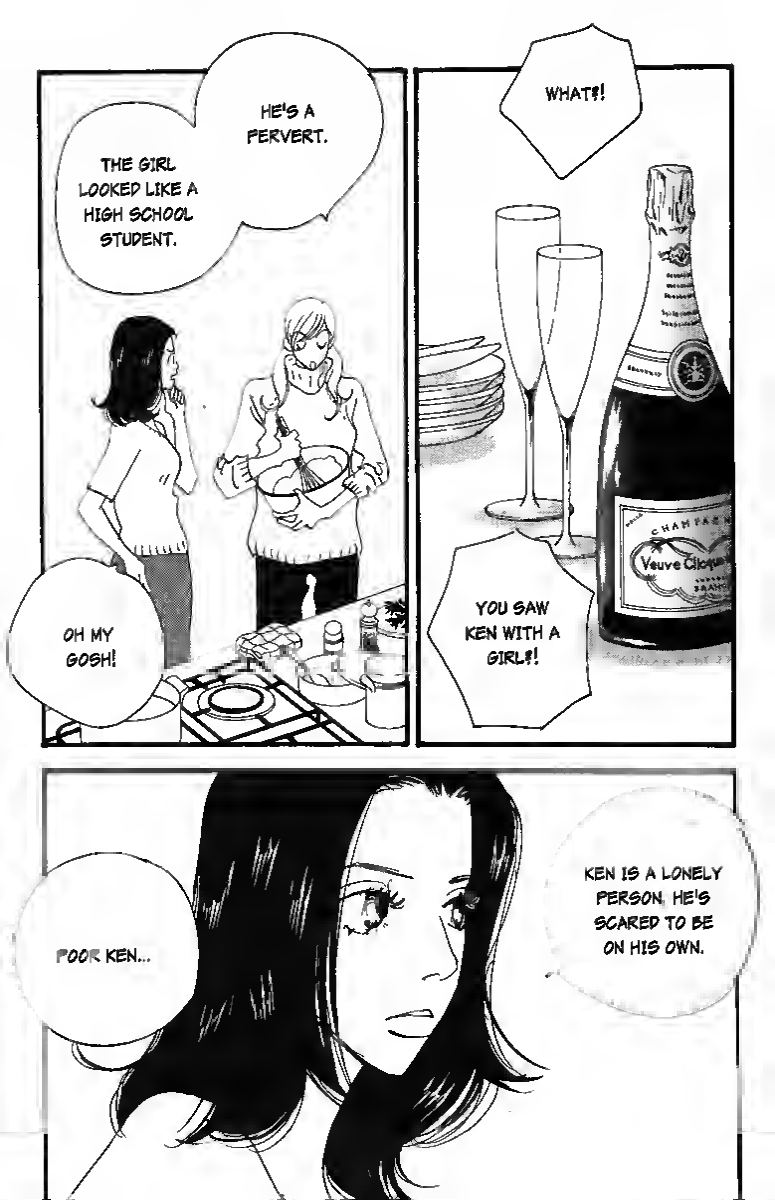
!!
HELLO. LONG TIME, NO SEE.
WHAT A COWARD... HE DOESN'T NEED TO BE PANICKED LIKE THAT.
WELL, SHE WAS IN A CLASS THAT I TAUGHT...
I SEE.
ニコニコ
HI, KEN. DO YOU LIVE AROUND HERE?
HEY, WHO'S THIS?
AH, NO..

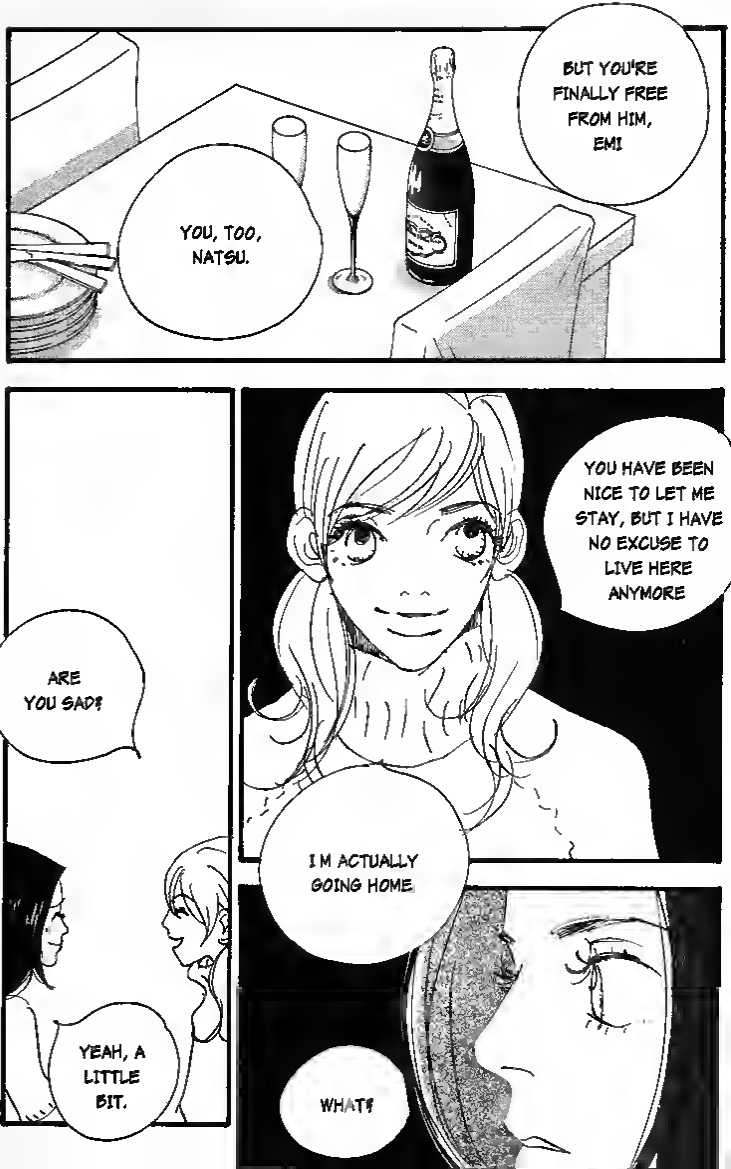

HEY, IS IT TRUE?
OF COURSE.
WAS SHE JUST YOUR STUDENT?

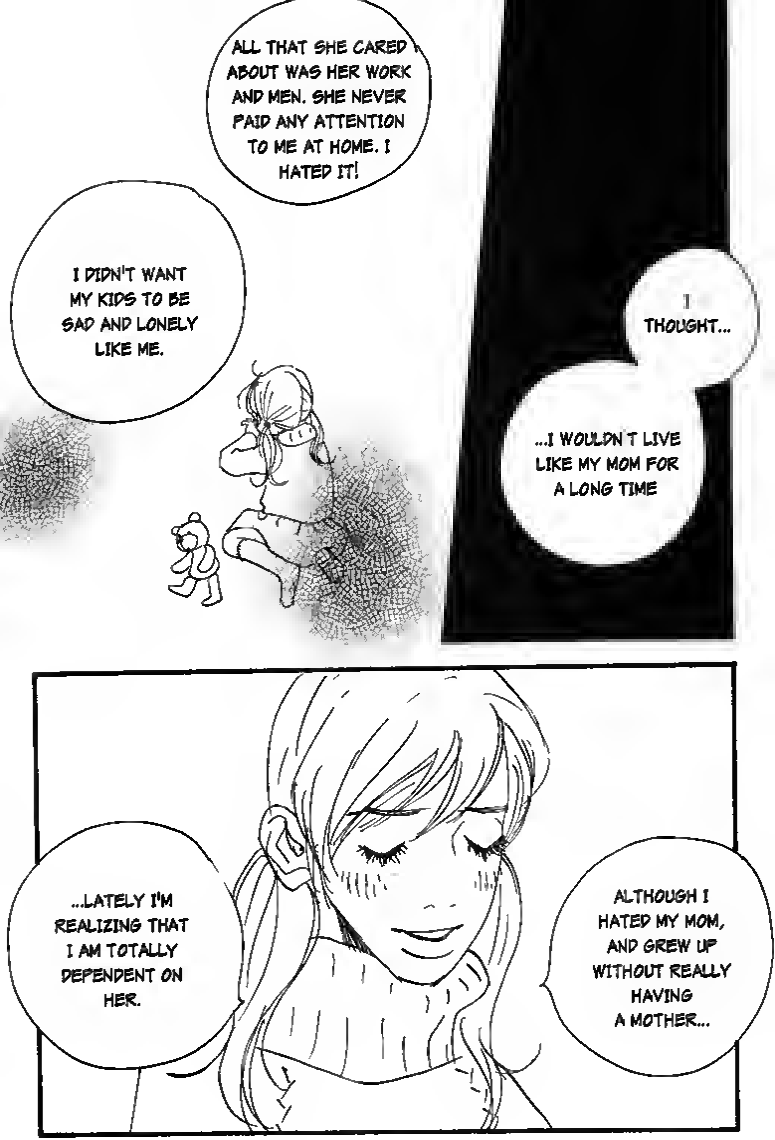
GOODBYE. SO LONG.
YEAH, GOOD-BYE.

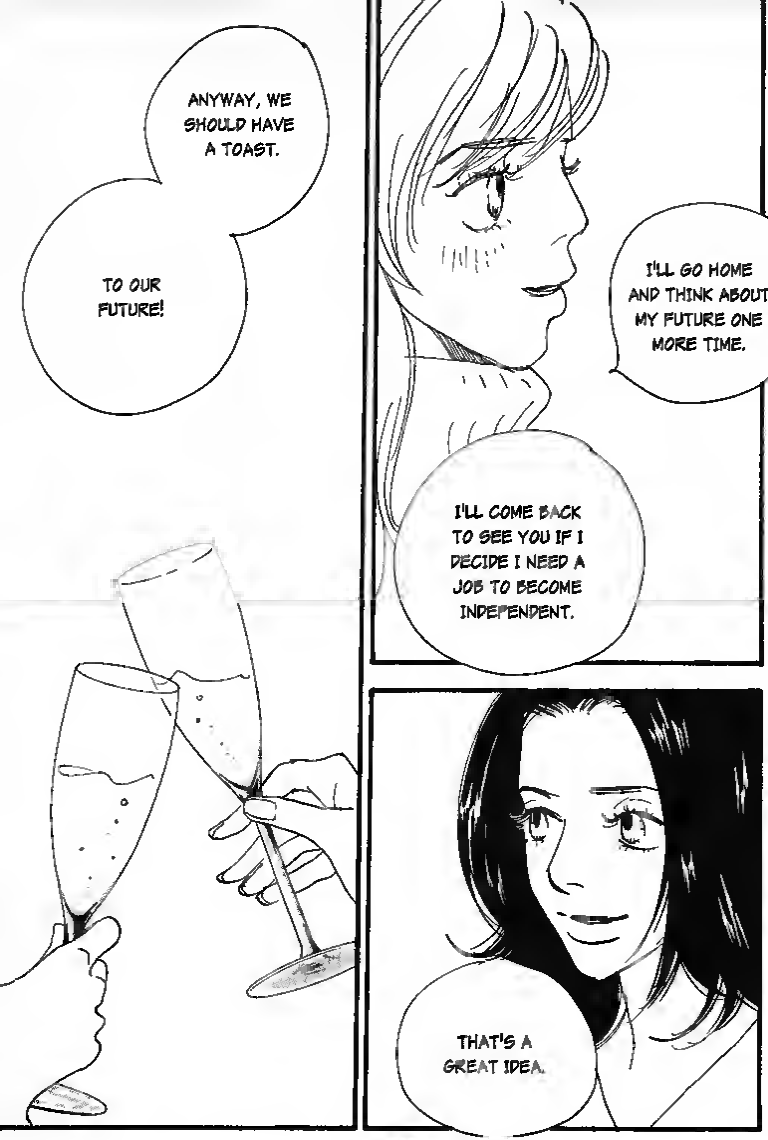
IT'S SICK...
THAT BASTARD WAS CHASING ME AROUND NOT TOO LONG AGO

WE SHOULD HAVE A BIG FEAST AND A BOTTLE OF WINE TONIGHT.
WE SHOULD TELL NATSU ABOUT THIS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.


HE'S A PERVERT.
THE GIRL LOOKED LIKE A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT.
OH MY GOSH!
WHAT?!
YOU SAW KEN WITH A GIRL?!
KEN IS A LONELY PERSON. HE'S SCARED TO BE ON HIS OWN.
POOR KEN...


BUT YOU'RE FINALLY FREE FROM HIM, EMI
YOU, TOO, NATSU.
YOU HAVE BEEN NICE TO LET ME STAY, BUT I HAVE NO EXCUSE TO LIVE HERE ANYMORE
I M ACTUALLY GOING HOME.
WHAT?
ARE YOU SAD?
YEAH, A LITTLE BIT.


ALL THAT SHE CARED ABOUT WAS HER WORK AND MEN. SHE NEVER PAID ANY ATTENTION TO ME AT HOME. I HATED IT!
I DIDN'T WANT MY KIDS TO BE SAD AND LONELY LIKE ME.
I THOUGHT...
...I WOULDN'T LIVE LIKE MY MOM FOR A LONG TIME
...LATELY I'M REALIZING THAT I AM TOTALLY DEPENDENT ON HER.
ALTHOUGH I HATED MY MOM, AND GREW UP WITHOUT REALLY HAVING A MOTHER...


ANYWAY, WE SHOULD HAVE A TOAST.
TO OUR FUTURE!
I'LL GO HOME AND THINK ABOUT MY FUTURE ONE MORE TIME.
I'LL COME BACK TO SEE YOU IF I DECIDE I NEED A JOB TO BECOME INDEPENDENT.
THAT'S A GREAT IDEA.

HEY, KEN.

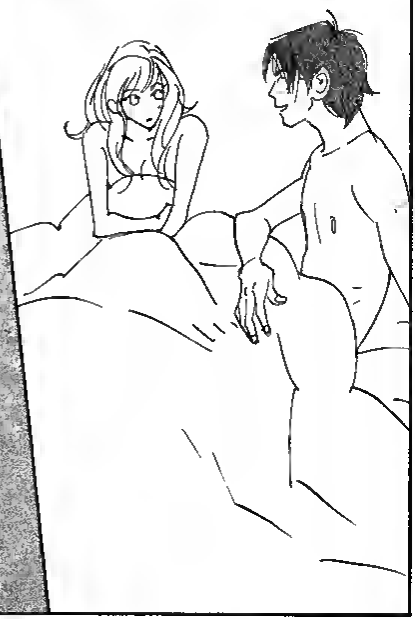
WHAT IS YOUR WIFE LIKE?

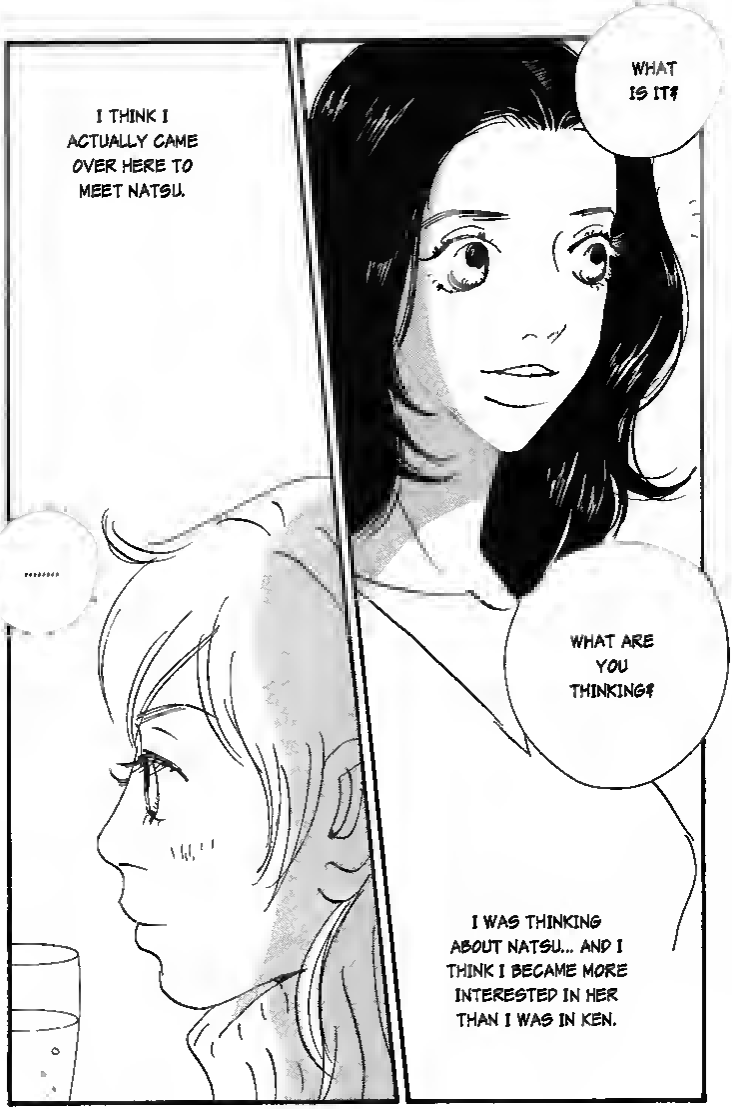
WELL, IN SHORT, SHE IS SOMEONE WHO IS REALLY INTO HER JOB.

SHE IS ALWAYS BUSY WITH WORK.

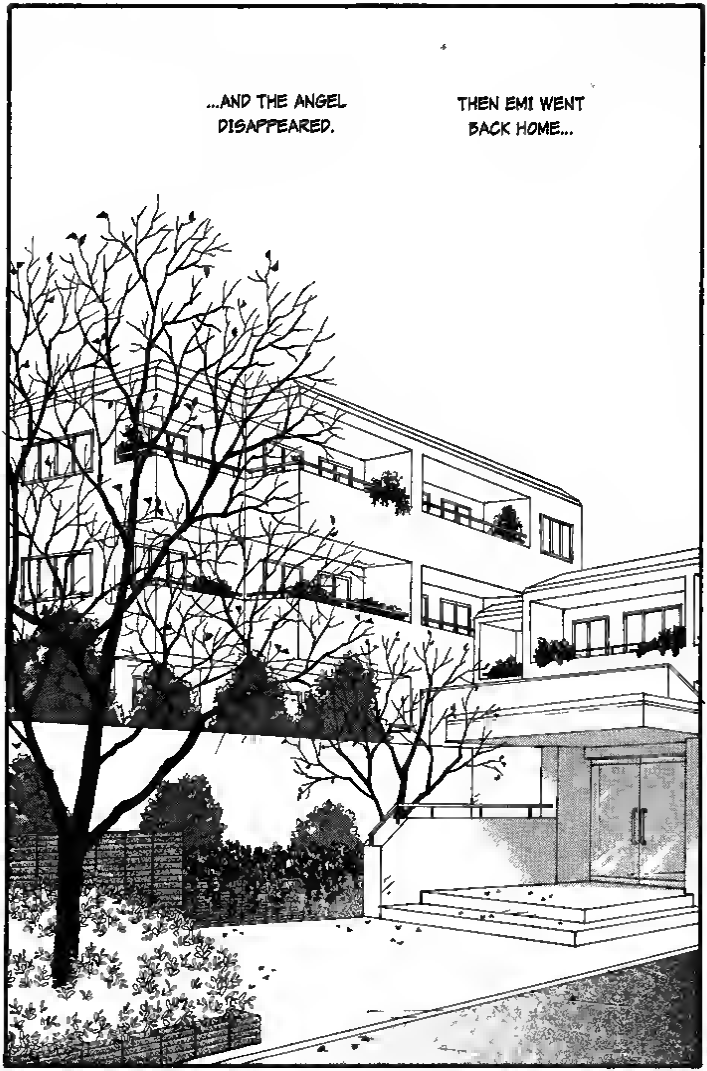
SO SHE'S INTO HER JOB AND IS ALWAYS BUSY?

IS SHE LIKE MY MOM?




I THINK I ACTUALLY CAME OVER HERE TO MEET NATSU.
WHAT IS IT?
.....
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?
I WAS THINKING ABOUT NATSU... AND I THINK I BECAME MORE INTERESTED IN HER THAN I WAS IN KEN.

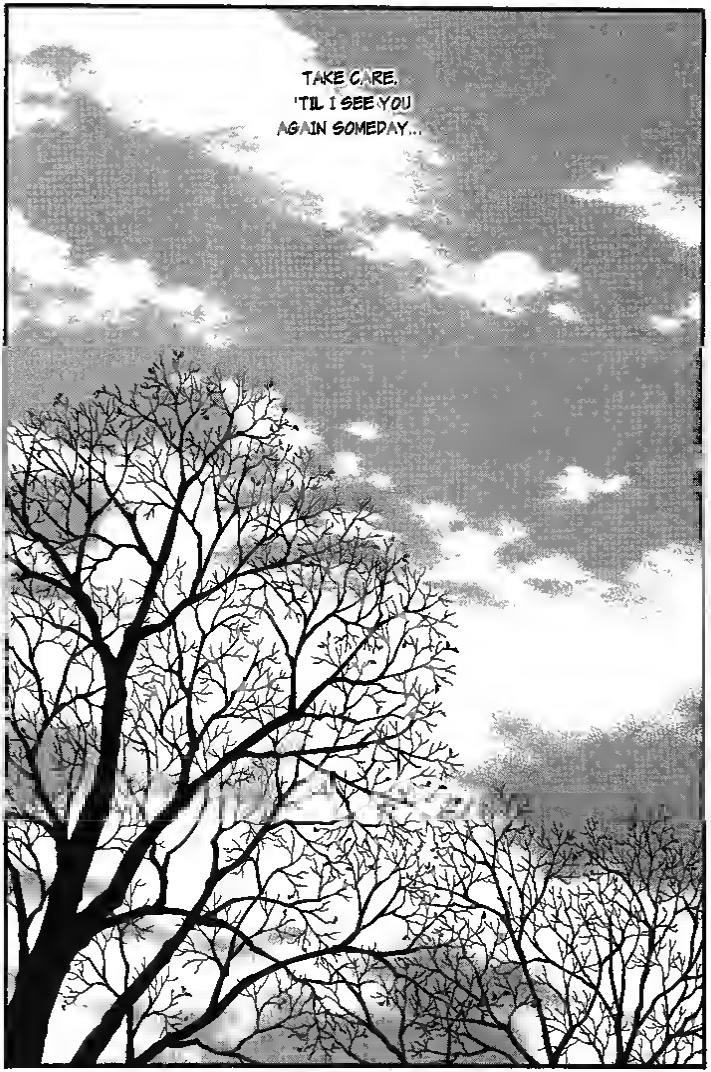
I'M JUST SO THANKFUL FOR YOUR HOSPITALITY AND KINDNESS, NATSU.
I WISH THAT YOU WERE MY MOM!
YOU'RE FUNNY, EMI


...AND THE ANGEL DISAPPEARED.
THEN EMI WENT BACK HOME...

I HEARD A RUMOR THAT SHE WAS GOING TO GIVE UP COOKING AND WRITE A NOVEL.
WOW, REALLY?
RECIPES BY KYOKO ARITA HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT LATELY.
YEAH, THEY ARE GETTING LESS INTERESTING, AREN'T THEY?
YEAH, SHE'LL PROBABLY WRITE ALL ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS AND HER LOVE LIFE SHE IS SUCH AN EXPERT WHEN IT COMES TO ROMANCE
I CAN TOTALLY SEE THAT.

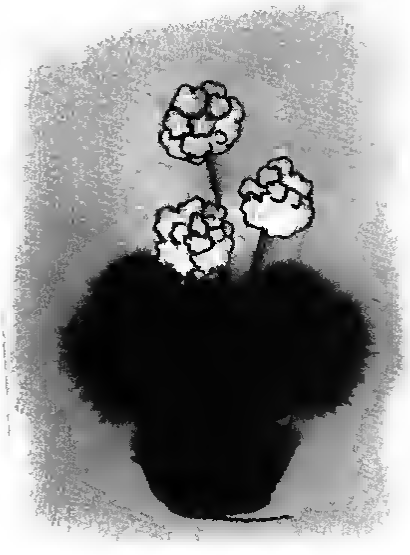
I WONDER WHAT EMI IS DOING.
SOMETIMES I THINK ABOUT THOSE STRANGE DAYS.

EVEN NOW, I STILL DON'T KNOW WHY THEY CAME TO MY PLACE.
SHE ONLY STAYED WITH ME A FEW DAYS, BUT SHE MADE ME FEEL SENTIMENTAL... LIKE I WAS RECALLING A CHILDHOOD MEMORY.
THAT ANGEL...
I WONDER IF SHE IS GETTING GIN AND LIME SOMEWHERE



THE END

God Only Knows

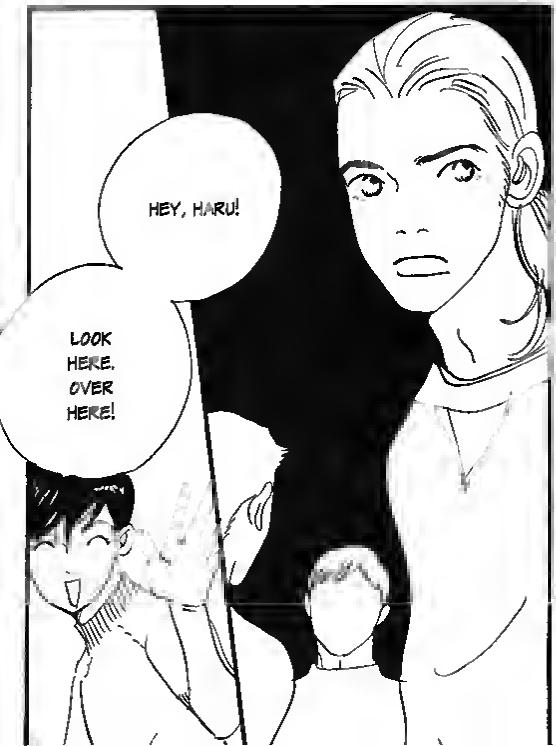


MY TREASURE.
IT'S A SECRET.
I CAN'T TELL
ANYONE.

SIGH! IT'S TERRIBLE.
MOST OF ALL....
WHAT IS MAKING YOU FEEL SO DOWN, TOBIO?
BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE A STEADY BOYFRIEND...
...AND MY JOB IS BORING.
WHAT'S UP WITH THIS PLACE LATELY? THERE ARE NO CUTE GUYS AROUND HERE ANYMORE.

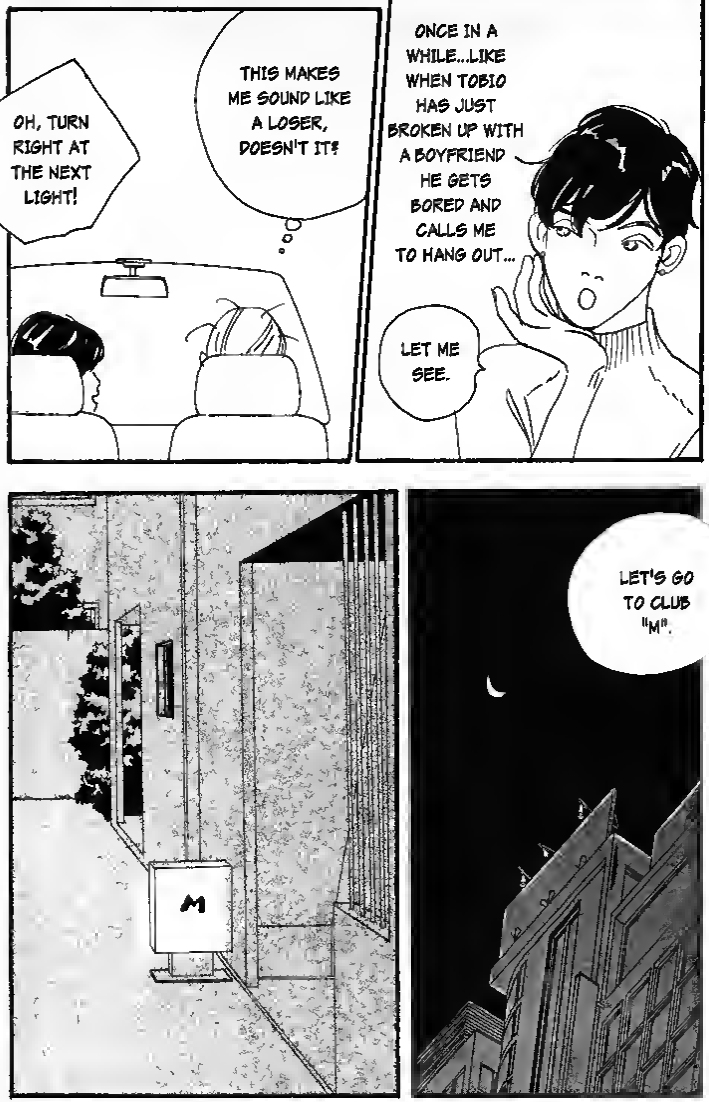
UGH! THERE IS NOTHING MORE HOPELESS THAN A HYSTERICAL GAY GUY.
WHO ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? YOURSELF?

IT MAKES ME SICK TO SEE AN UGLY COUPLE MAKING OUT.

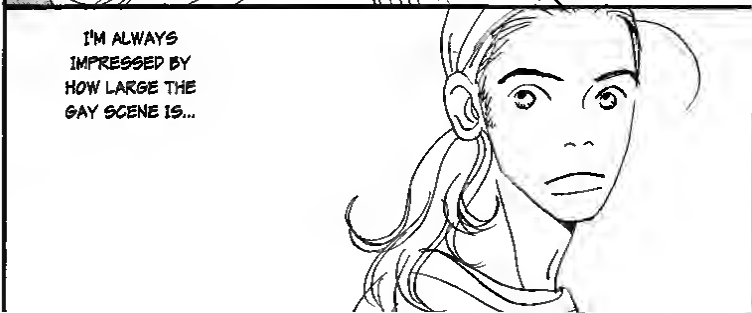

HEY, HARU!
LOOK HERE. OVER HERE!

LET'S GO, TOBIO.
SEE YOU LATER.
WOW, A GOOD-LOOKING GUY!
YOU'RE TOTALLY MY TYPE. WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO OUT SOMETIME?
I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT WITH MY BEST FRIEND OVER A STUPID GUY.
NO, NOT AT ALL!
I'M HIS BEST FRIEND...
HOW DARE YOU ASK ME TO MEET YOU AT SUCH A GAY PLACE!
BASTARD, ARE YOU TRYING TO CONVERT ME?

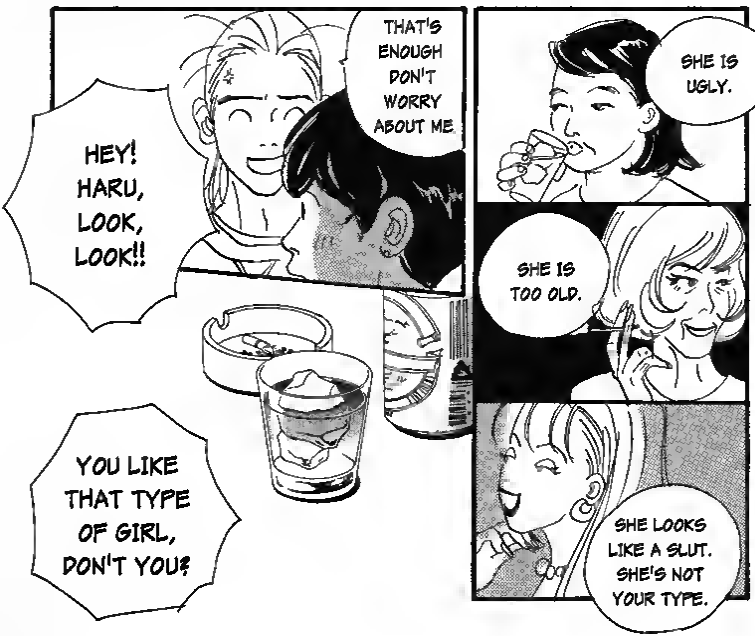
HE WAS REALLY CLOSE TO A GIRL THAT I LIKED BACK THEN.
TOBIO AND I HAVE KNOWN EACH OTHER SINCE FIRST GRADE.
IT WAS OUR SOPHOMORE YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL WHEN I FOUND OUT THAT HE WAS GAY.
TOBIO AT 14 YEARS OLD.
HEY, TOBIO.
YOU LIKE THAT GIRL, DON'T YOU?
WE STILL HANG OUT ONCE IN A WHILE
BUT, WE SOMEHOW MANAGE TO GET ALONG REALLY WELL.
ブロロン
WELL... WHERE DO YOU WANNA GO?
HEY, WHERE DO YOU WANNA GO?
I LIKE MEN MORE THAN WOMEN.
OH, IT'S TOTALLY WRONG.
がちょーん
IT WAS ABSOLUTELY SHOCKING!

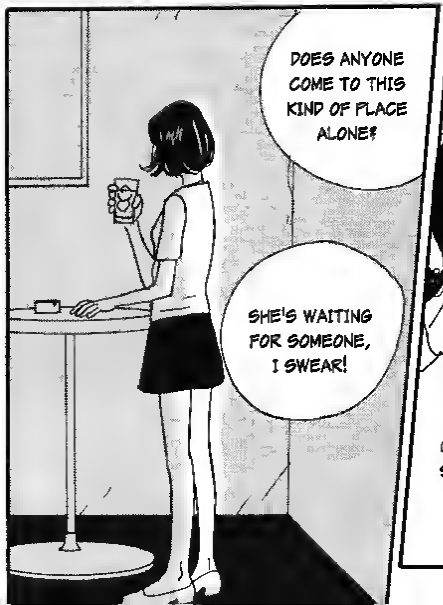

OH, TURN RIGHT AT THE NEXT LIGHT!
THIS MAKES ME SOUND LIKE A LOSER, DOESN'T IT?
ONCE IN A WHILE...LIKE WHEN TOBIO HAS JUST BROKEN UP WITH A BOYFRIEND HE GETS BORED AND CALLS ME TO HANG OUT...
LET ME SEE.
M
LET'S GO TO CLUB "M".

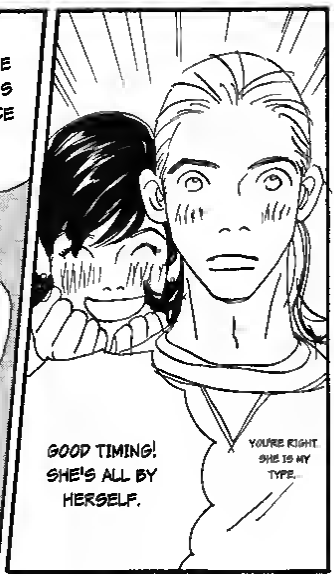
HEY,
TOBIO,
LONG TIME,
NO SEE.


I'M ALWAYS
IMPRESSED BY
HOW LARGE THE
GAY SCENE IS...

OH, I GOT IT!
I CAN FIND A GIRL FOR YOU, HARU.
PLUS, TOO MANY GIRLS...
NO CUTIES HERE, EITHER.
BY ALL MEANS...


HEY! HARU, LOOK, LOOK!!
THAT'S ENOUGH DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME.
YOU LIKE THAT TYPE OF GIRL, DON'T YOU?
SHE IS UGLY.
SHE IS TOO OLD.
SHE LOOKS LIKE A SLUT. SHE'S NOT YOUR TYPE.


DOES ANYONE COME TO THIS KIND OF PLACE ALONE?
SHE'S WAITING FOR SOMEONE, I SWEAR!


GOOD TIMING! SHE'S ALL BY HERSELF.
YOU'RE RIGHT. SHE IS MY TYPE...

ちらッ
OH, WHY ..?
TALK TO HER.. NOW!
WAIT, WAIT A SECOND! WHY DON'T WE CHECK HER OUT FOR A SECOND?
I JUST MADE EYE CONTACT WITH HER.
DAMN!
カバッ
WHY ARE YOU HIDING, HARU?
HI THERE.

HEY, HARU! GO AHEAD AND GET HER A DRINK.
I'M TALKING TO YOU.
WOULD YOU MIND BUYING ME A DRINK?
.....
WHAT? TO ME?
I KINDA LIKE YOU.
YES.

SORRY, I'M NOT INTERESTED IN GIRLS.
OH, YOU'RE GAY?!
DON'T BE SO SHOCKED, BITCH.
SO, DOES THIS MEAN THAT YOU'RE GAY, TOO?
NO, I'M NOT. I'M STRAIGHT.
ARE YOU SAYING YOU WANNA SLEEP WITH HIM?
DOES THAT MEAN ANYTHING ELSE?
I SEE.
THAT'S GOOD. WOULD YOU WANT TO SPEND A NIGHT WITH ME?
WHORE!
SHUT UP, QUEER!

HEY, WHERE DO YOU WANNA GO TO DO IT?
I...
...I DON'T HAVE SEX WITHOUT LOVE.
SHAME ON YOU, BITCH.
LOSER.
HARU, GOOD JOB!
BUT, SHE LOOKS...

...MORE FRAGILE AND SENSITIVE THAN SHE ACTED...
.....
I MIGHT GET DRUNK TONIGHT.
HELLO.
BECAUSE YOU'RE A NOVICE DRINKER.

OH YEAH!
UGH, I'M REALLY GONNA GET WASTED...
SMOOCH!
OH, THIS IS MARK I JUST MET HIM. ♡
WHAT IS THAT?
THAT GIRL MIGHT HAVE ALREADY LEFT.

WOW, FEELS NICE AND REFRESHING.
OH...
...NO!
SOMEONE'S DOING IT.
TOBIO AND THE COUPLE OVER THERE IN THE BUSH.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND THEM. HOW CAN YOU HAVE SEX SO CASUALLY?
STOP, STOP IT.
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.

SHE'S MY GIRL.
WHAT?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

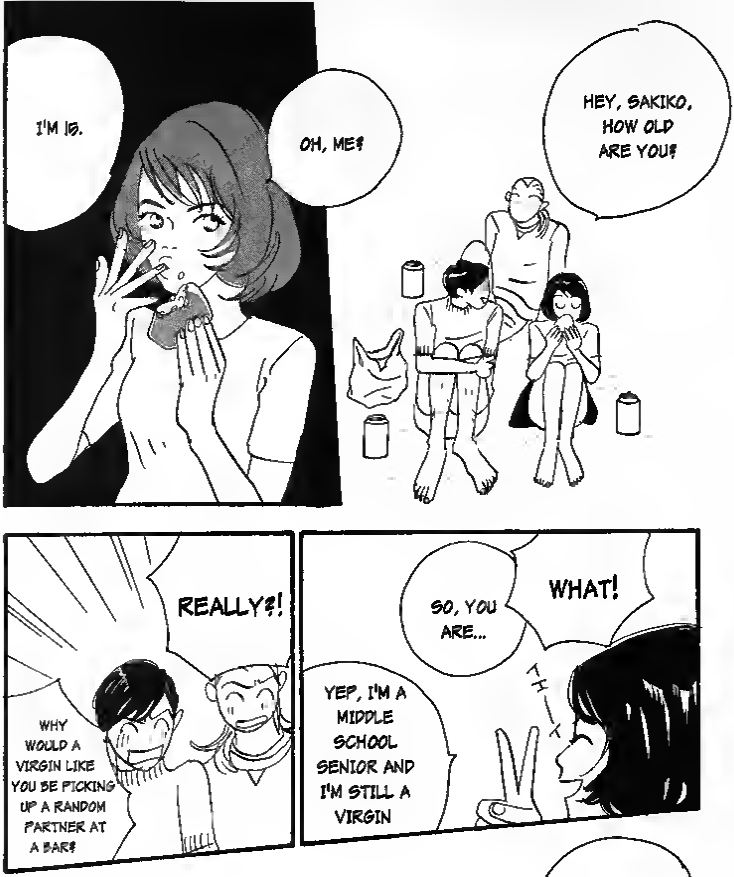
ARE YOU STUPID?
IF YOU DIDN'T WANT TO DO IT, STOP GOING AFTER STRANGERS.
.....
M
I...
HARU...

WHATEVER.
I'M SAKIKO. GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
WHAT?! WHY ARE YOU WITH THAT BITCH?!
WHY DON'T WE DRIVE AROUND FOR A WHILE? DRIVE SOMEWHERE NICE!
THE BEACH! LET'S GO TO THE BEACH.
SO, ANYWAY, I'M TIRED. LET'S GO HOME.
OKAY. I'LL GET MY CAR.
HEY.
YEAH, THE BEACH!
I'M NOT DRIVING, SO I DON'T REALLY CARE.

I LOVE CRUISING!
THIS IS FUN!
SIGH.
IT'S LIKE A MIDNIGHT PICNIC. ♡
WE'VE GOT LOTS OF SNACKS.
ポテトチップス
DAMN IT! THEY FOUND A WAY TO GET ALONG AFTER ALL.
キャハハ

YAHOO!
♡

HURRY UP! C'MON!
HARU! COME ON IN!
THEY LOOK LIKE GIRLFRIENDS, JUST HAVING A BLAST.


I'M 19.
OH, ME?
HEY, SAKIKO, HOW OLD ARE YOU?
REALLY?!
WHY WOULD A VIRGIN LIKE YOU BE PICKING UP A RANDOM PARTNER AT A BAR?
SO, YOU ARE...
WHAT!
YEP, I'M A MIDDLE SCHOOL SENIOR AND I'M STILL A VIRGIN
ナニー!
WELL...
BECAUSE TOSHI BETRAYED ME AND I WANTED TO GET REVENGE

WE WERE BOTH VIRGINS.
WE PROMISED TO LOSE OUR VIRGINITY TOGETHER ON OUR GRADUATION DAY.
BUT TOSHI GOT SCARED THAT HE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DO IT...SO HE HAD SEX WITH AN OLDER WOMAN FIRST...
I THINK THAT'S BECAUSE HE WANTED TO TAKE THE LEAD.
WHATEVER THE REASON, I DIDN'T LIKE IT.
I CAN'T FORGIVE HIM.
I THOUGHT THAT I COULD HAVE SEX WITH AN OLDER GUY TO LEARN HOW TO BE A GOOD LAY.

IF YOU HAVE SOMEONE TO LOVE, YOU DON'T NEED TO SLEEP WITH STRANGERS.
I KNOW...
.....
SIGH! IT'S TERRIBLE.
UGH, I STEPPED ON SOMETHING THAT STUNG ME.
WHAT? LET ME SEE.
OUCH!
IT'S A STARFISH!
WOW, VERY RARE...
I'VE NEVER SEEN ONE BEFORE!

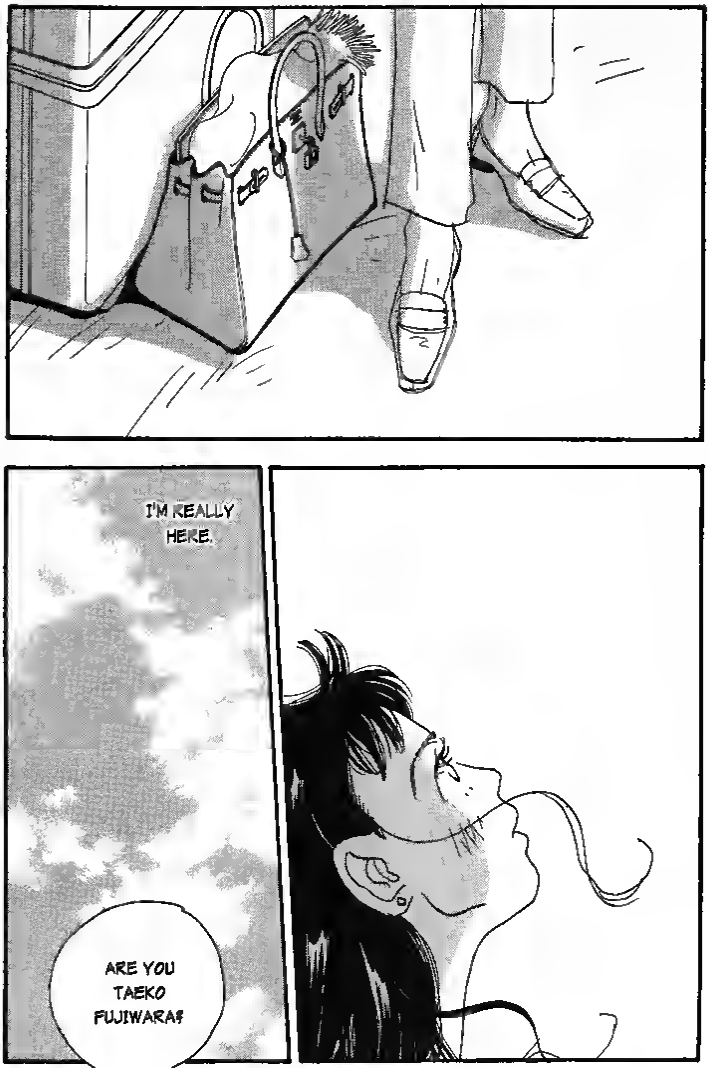
IT'S A BEAUTIFUL SUNRISE.
IT'S SHAPED JUST LIKE A STAR!
IT'S REALLY A STARFISH.
OH, WAIT A SECOND.
WE SHOULD GET GOING.
I WANT TO TAKE THIS WITH ME AS A SOUVENIR.

HOW ABOUT LOSING MY VIRGINITY WITH YOU, HARU?
STOP TALKING ABOUT IT!
BUT I AM GETTING HUNGRY AGAIN.

END

Tea Time

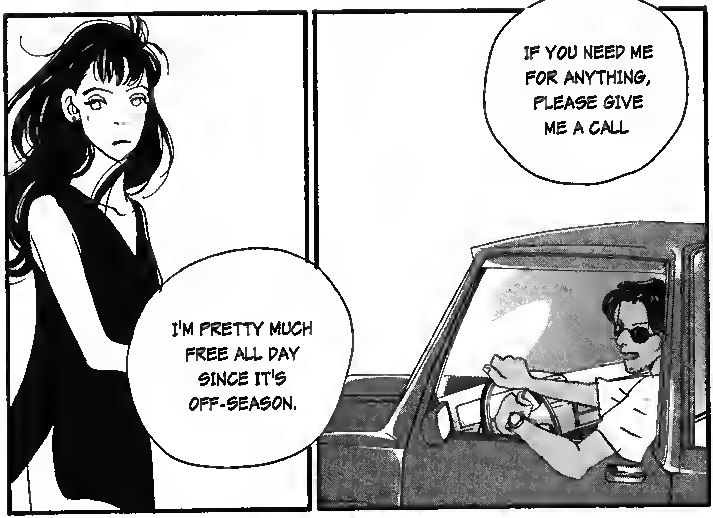
STOP

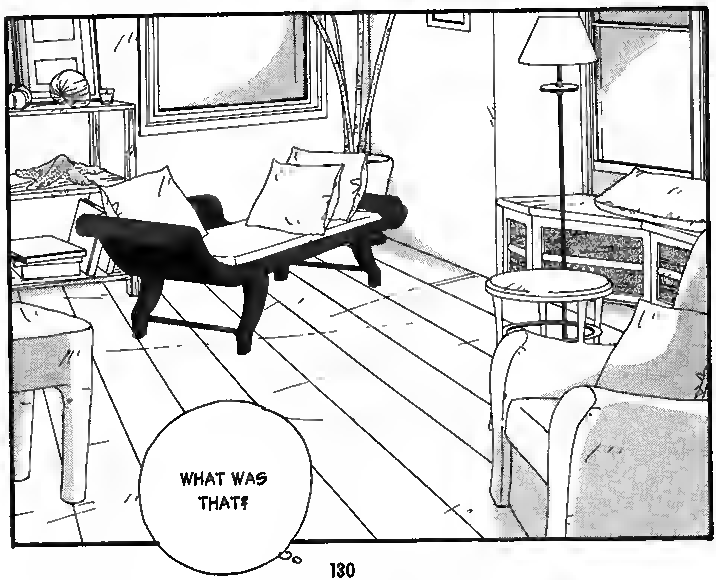

I'M REALLY HERE.
ARE YOU TAEKO FUJIWARA?

I'M KENNY, YOUR TOUR GUIDE NICE TO MEET YOU
AH... NICE TO MEET YOU, TOO.
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OTHER ONE?
WELL...
YOUR RESERVATION WAS MADE FOR A PARTY OF TWO.
IS THIS ALL? ONE SUITCASE?

IS HE COMING LATER?
HE REALLY COULDN'T LEAVE WORK?
YOU GUYS PLANNED THIS VACATION TOGETHER MONTHS AGO.
WHAT IF YOU'RE ALONE FOR THE ENTIRE 10 DAYS?
I HOPE SO.
IT'S GONNA BE ALL RIGHT.
HE SAID THAT HE COULD PROBABLY COME OVER IN THREE DAYS

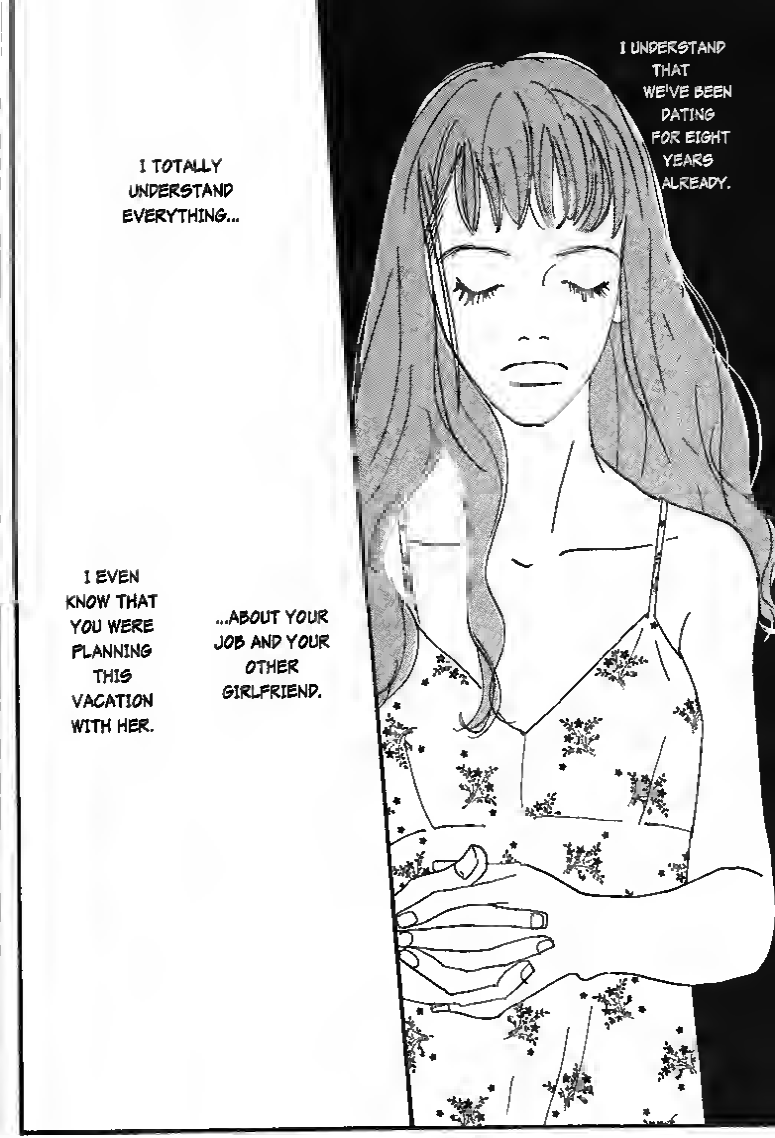
IT'S GOOD THAT THIS TRIP WASN'T ACTUALLY YOUR HONEYMOON. HA, HA, HA, HA, HA.
.....
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
WELL, I'LL LEAVE YOU ALONE NOW.


I'M PRETTY MUCH FREE ALL DAY SINCE IT'S OFF-SEASON.
IF YOU NEED ME FOR ANYTHING, PLEASE GIVE ME A CALL

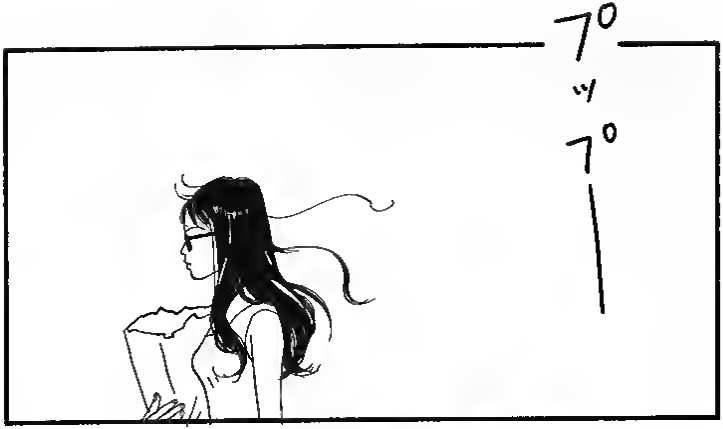

WHAT WAS THAT?

I DON'T LIKE SUCH AN EASY-GOING GUY.
I DON'T TRUST ANYONE SO EAGER TO HANG OUT

WE SHOULD CANCEL THIS TRIP. I PROMISE TO MAKE TIME FOR YOU NEXT TIME.
YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND.
THERE IS NOTHING I CAN DO. THIS IS WORK.


I TOTALLY UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING...
I EVEN KNOW THAT YOU WERE PLANNING THIS VACATION WITH HER.
...ABOUT YOUR JOB AND YOUR OTHER GIRLFRIEND.
I UNDERSTAND THAT WE'VE BEEN DATING FOR EIGHT YEARS ALREADY.

I WANT TO LOOK OUT A WINDOW.
THAT'S WHY I CAME OVER HERE BY MYSELF.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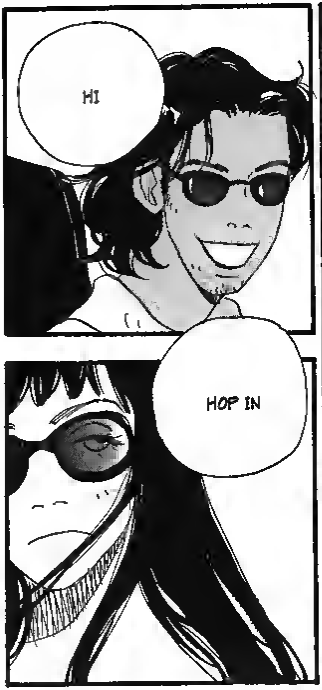

HI
HOP IN

キイッ

HEY...
WHY DO YOU CALL YOURSELF KENNY?
'CAUSE MY NAME IS KEN.
YOU WENT TO THE MARKET?! IT TAKES HALF AN HOUR TO WALK THERE.
... ...
THAT COTTAGE IS BEAUTIFUL, BUT TOO FAR TO GO ANYWHERE.
I WAS BORN AND RAISED IN TOKYO, SO I WAS AMAZED TO SEE SUCH A REMOTE PLACE.
WHEN DID YOU START LIVING HERE?
I CAME HERE FOR FUN, AND THEN FELL IN LOVE WITH THIS PLACE.
ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO.

I CAN'T EXPLAIN IT, BUT THIS PLACE IS VERY SPECIAL FOR ME.
ESPECIALLY THE SKY AND OCEAN ON THIS ISLAND.
.....
THANK YOU.
I APPRECIATE THE RIDE

HEY, HOW ABOUT HAVING DINNER TOGETHER TONIGHT?
I'M SORRY, BUT I WANT TO BE ALONE TONIGHT...
OKAY.
CALL ME IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND.
WHAT A WEIRD GUY.
I DON'T KNOW IF HE IS JUST BEING NICE OR HITTING ON ME.

ESPECIALLY THE SKY AND OCEAN ON THIS ISLAND.
THIS PLACE IS VERY SPECIAL FOR ME.
I KINDA ENVIED HIM WHEN HE SAID THAT.
I HAVE NOTHING "SPECIAL" RIGHT NOW.
MY BOYFRIEND AND MY JOB.
I'M JUST HOLDING ON TO THEM BECAUSE I'M TOO LAZY TO MAKE ANY CHANGES

I'M HERE TO FORGET ABOUT EVERYTHING, AND FIND MY REAL SELF.

WHAT...

WHY?

KENNY.
IF DINNER WON'T WORK, HOW ABOUT HAVING TEA TOGETHER?
I BROUGHT TEA LEAVES THAT ARE GROWN ON THIS ISLAND.
.....!!

IT'S A FULL MOON TONIGHT.
I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH A BIG BEAUTIFUL MOON.
IT'S BEAUTIFUL ...

DON'T WORRY.
ANYONE CAN FEEL A BIT CRAZY DURING A FULL MOON.
I'M SORRY...
...IF I ACTED WEIRD OR COLD.

IT'S NATURAL.

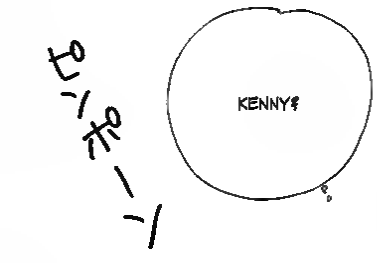
STRONG, SWEET, SMELL FROM FLOWERS.
MOIST AIR.
AH...
OH.
NO.
UM...
MM...

THIS ISLAND
HAS SOME KIND
OF NATURAL
INTOXICATION...

KENNY?
WAS THAT A DREAM?

IT WASN'T A DREAM.

MY BODY REMEMBERS IT.



I'M SO SORRY, TAEKO...
...FOR HAVING LEFT YOU ALONE.
YUJI SHOWED UP ON THE THIRD DAY.

THE SWEET SMELL OF TEA IS ALL OVER THE ROOM.

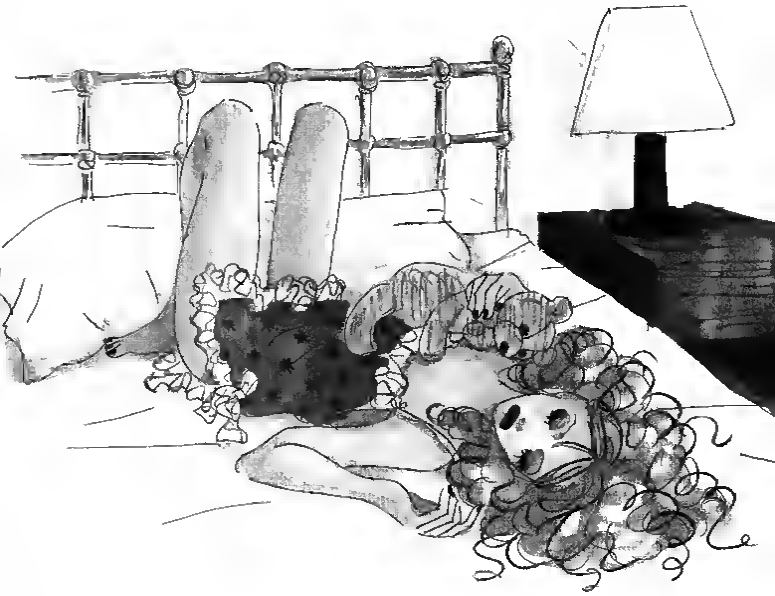
WHEN I REALIZED THAT I PROBABLY WOULDN'T SEE KENNY AGAIN, THE TEARS STARTED FLOWING.

BUT I'LL
NEVER EVER
FORGET...

...THAT FULL
MOON, MOIST
AIR AND THE
SWEET SMELL
OF PLUMERIA.

END

A Gift from the Heavens

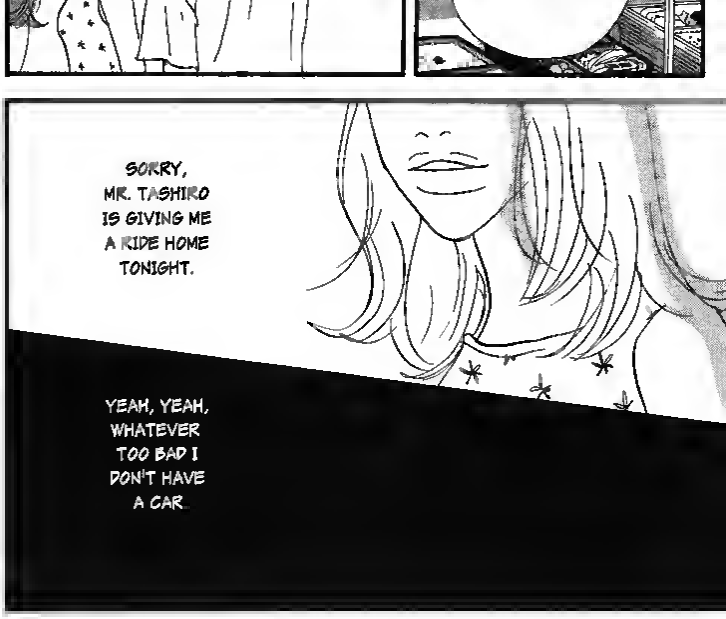


YOU DON'T NEED TO
WORRY ABOUT
ANYTHING.

'CAUSE GOD IS
WATCHING
US ALL THE TIME.

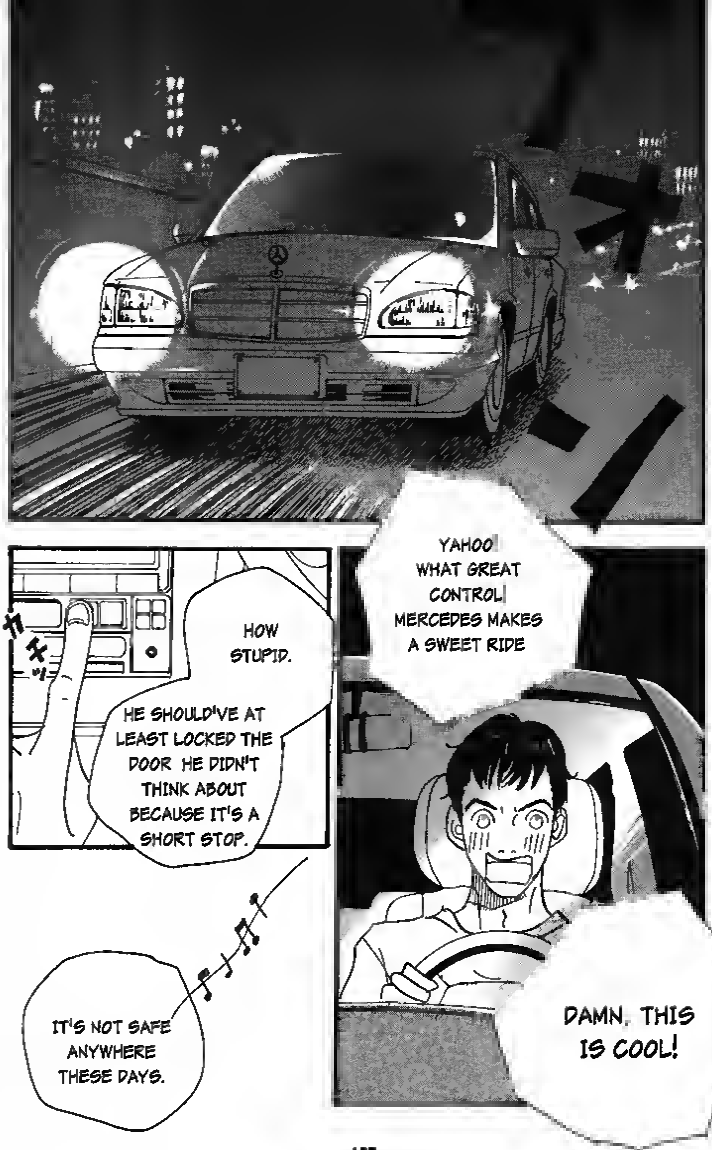
SIGH...
WHAT A DEPRESSING WEEKEND...

I DIDN'T MAKE MUCH MONEY AT MY JOB THIS MONTH.
THE SHIRT THAT I WAS PLANNING TO BUY ON PAYDAY HAS SOLD OUT.
PLUS, AT THE PARTY TONIGHT...
MIDORI, WHY DON'T WE GO HOME TOGETHER?


SORRY, MR. TASHIRO IS GIVING ME A RIDE HOME TONIGHT.
YEAH, YEAH, WHATEVER TOO BAD I DON'T HAVE A CAR.

THE LAST TRAIN HAS ALREADY LEFT... HOW AM I GONNA GET HOME?

OOPS, HE LEFT THE ENGINE ON.
WHAT A CARELESS GUY...
.....

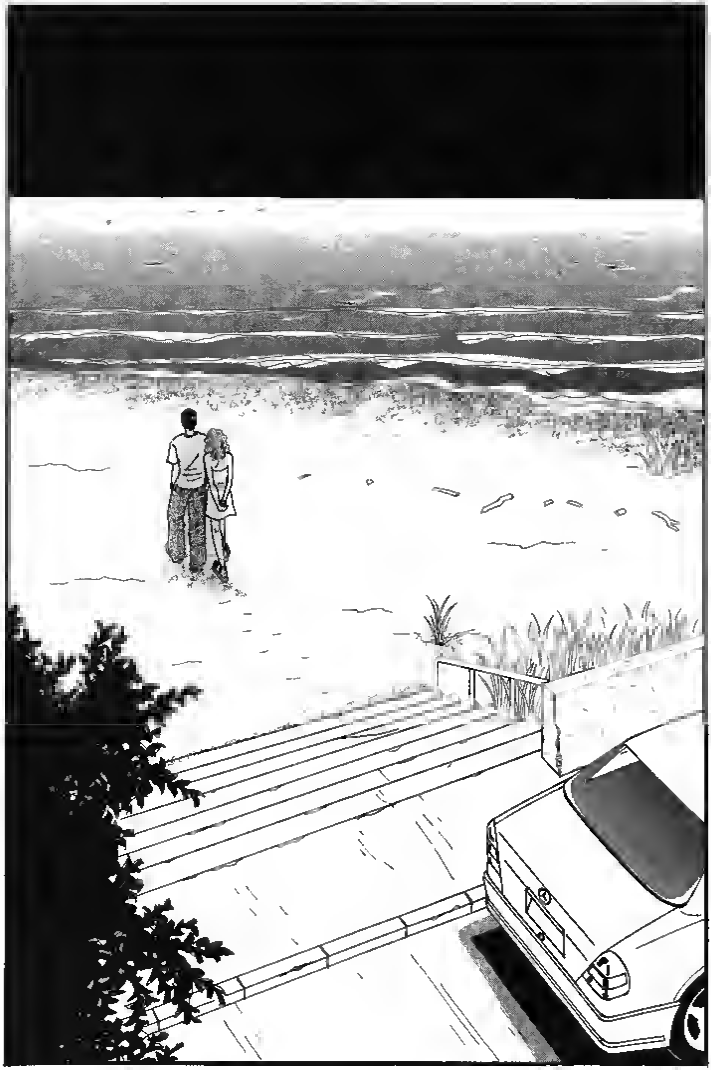

ブーン
YAHOO! WHAT GREAT CONTROL! MERCEDES MAKES A SWEET RIDE
DAMN, THIS IS COOL!
カチ
HOW STUPID.
HE SHOULD'VE AT LEAST LOCKED THE DOOR. HE DIDN'T THINK ABOUT BECAUSE IT'S A SHORT STOP.
IT'S NOT SAFE ANYWHERE THESE DAYS.

MM... WHAT?
WHERE IS IT?
キキキッ
!!
OUCH.
WOW, YOU SCARED THE HELL OUT OF ME!!!
WHAT? YOU SCARED ME SLAMMING ON YOUR BRAKES.
WAIT A MINUTE...YOU'RE NOT THE SAME GUY. ARE YOU HIS FRIEND?

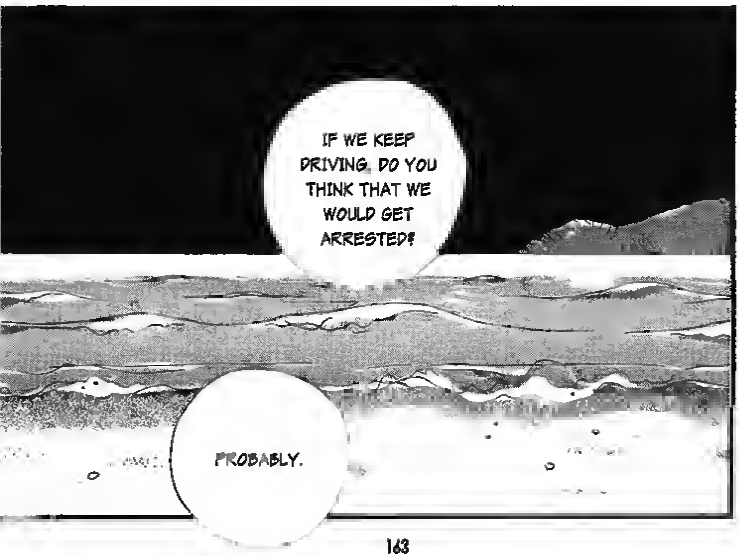
ME? I...
...I JUST MET HIM TONIGHT. HE WAS SUPPOSED TO TAKE ME HOME.
NO... I'M NOT HIS FRIEND..
ARE YOU?
SO, WHERE IS HE NOW?
I WAS ASLEEP IN THE BACK SEAT 'CAUSE I WASN'T FEELING WELL I GUESS I HAD TOO MUCH TO DRINK.
UH, I FEEL MUCH BETTER NOW.
HIM?

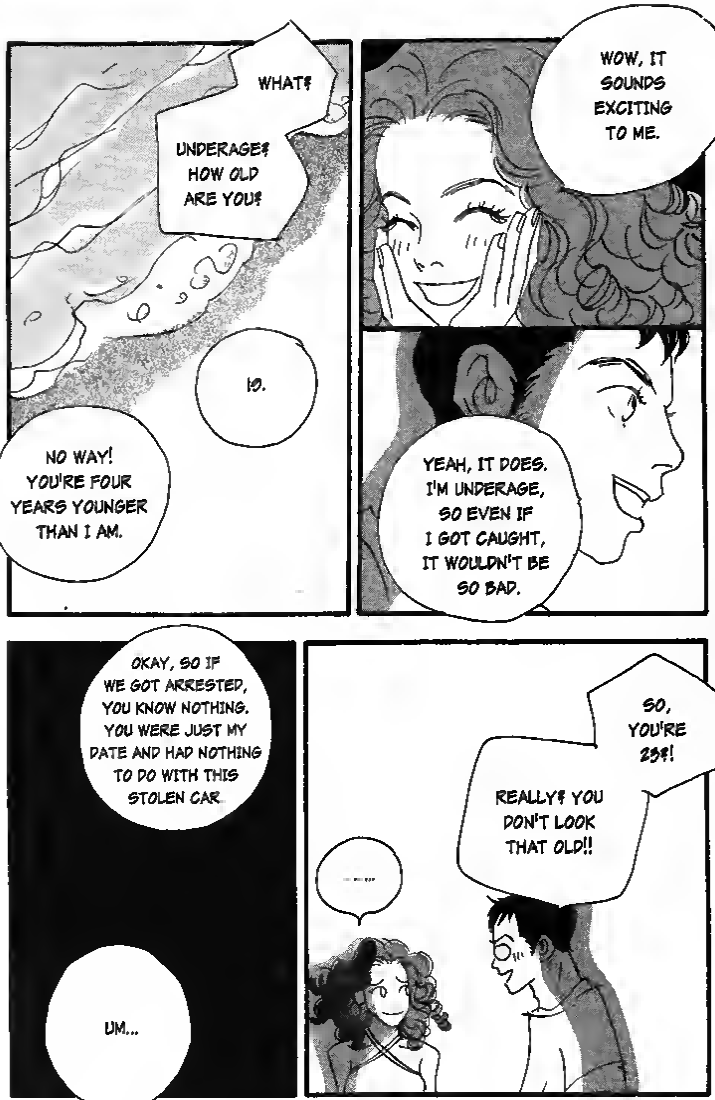
HEY.
DON'T YOU CONSIDER THAT STEALING?
YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS. I'LL TAKE YOU HOME ANYWAY.
I THINK HE WENT INSIDE THE CONVENIENCE STORE.
THE CONVENIENCE STORE?
WELL, HE LEFT THE ENGINE RUNNING WHEN HE WENT IN, SO I JUST BORROWED THIS CAR.
They're hurry on the way now
Runaway
WELL, THAT'S OKAY WITH ME.
OH, I LOVE THIS SONG.
YOU'RE A TRIP.

REALLY? SOUNDS GOOD!
ooh Runaway
HEY, WANNA GO CRUISING FOR A WHILE?
IT'S 'RUNAWAY'! WHAT A PERFECT SONG!
WE'RE JUST RUNNING AWAY NOW.
um— too late
OOH, I KNOW...
LET'S GO TO THE BEACH!



NOT TO MENTION, A STRANGER WITH A STOLEN CAR.
THIS IS REALLY WEIRD.
JUST THINK, I'M AT THE BEACH WATCHING THE WAVES WITH A STRANGER.


IF WE KEEP DRIVING, DO YOU THINK THAT WE WOULD GET ARRESTED?
PROBABLY.

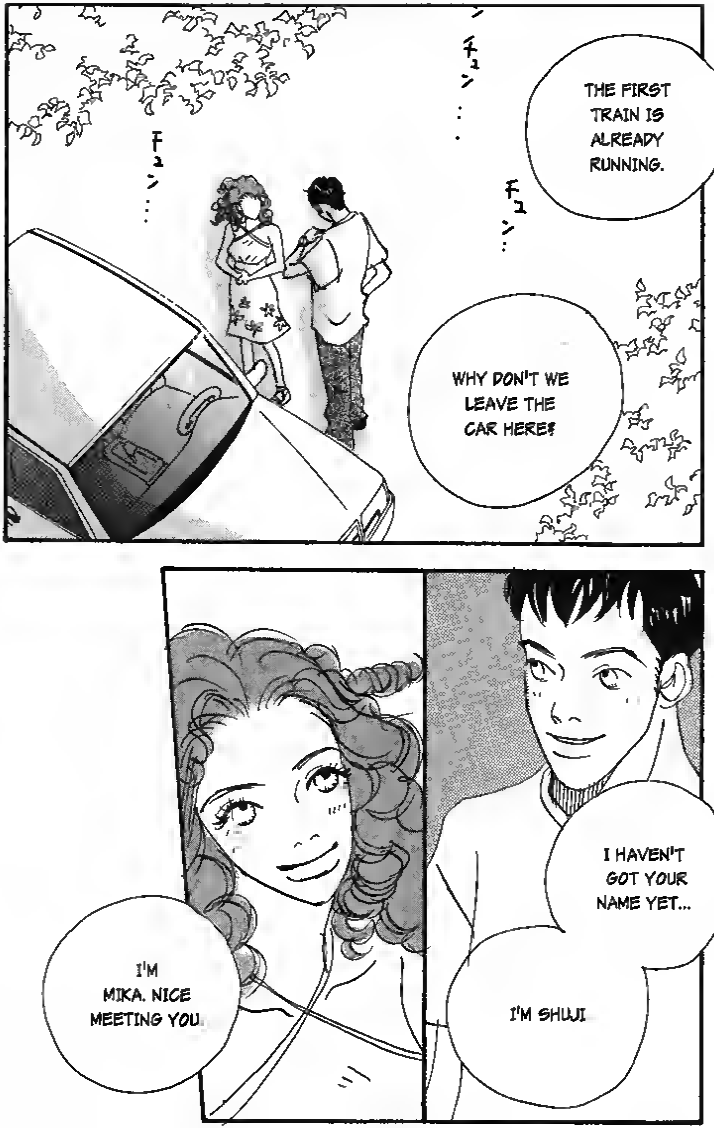

WHAT?
UNDERAGE? HOW OLD ARE YOU?
19.
NO WAY! YOU'RE FOUR YEARS YOUNGER THAN I AM.
WOW, IT SOUNDS EXCITING TO ME.
YEAH, IT DOES. I'M UNDERAGE, SO EVEN IF I GOT CAUGHT, IT WOULDN'T BE SO BAD.
OKAY, SO IF WE GOT ARRESTED, YOU KNOW NOTHING. YOU WERE JUST MY DATE AND HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS STOLEN CAR.
UM...
SO, YOU'RE 25?!
REALLY? YOU DON'T LOOK THAT OLD!!
...

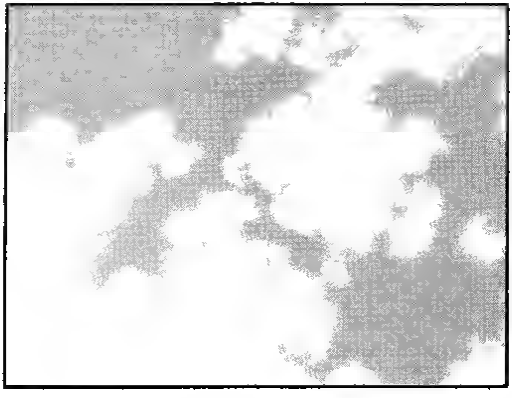
HOW ABOUT WE ARE LOVERS? WE STOLE A CAR TO ELOPE 'CAUSE OUR PARENTS DIDN'T APPROVE OF US GETTING MARRIED.
WHY DON'T WE MAKE IT SOUND MORE ROMANTIC?
HA, HA, HA...
LET'S PRACTICE LOOKING LIKE "LOVERS."

I LOVE YOU...
I LOVE YOU SO MUCH...
EVEN IF OUR PARENTS NEVER APPROVE, WE WILL BE TOGETHER FOREVER.

STRANGELY ENOUGH, IT DOESN'T SOUND SO WRONG.
IS...
...THAT RIGHT?
LIKE, LONG AGO IN A FORMER LIFE.
WE'VE BEEN LOVERS FOR A LONG TIME.

WE HAVE
MANY BEAUTIFUL
MORNINGS LIKE THIS.


チュン…
チュン…
チュン…
THE FIRST TRAIN IS ALREADY RUNNING.
WHY DON'T WE LEAVE THE CAR HERE?
I'M MIKA. NICE MEETING YOU.
I HAVEN'T GOT YOUR NAME YET...
I'M SHUJI



GOD GAVE ME A NEW
DAY. IT'S JUST
STARTED.

END